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**AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH**

# S O C C E R

VOL 17 No.803—TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10 1996

• REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST — PUBLICATION No NBQ5726

**WEEKLY**

**\$2.50**

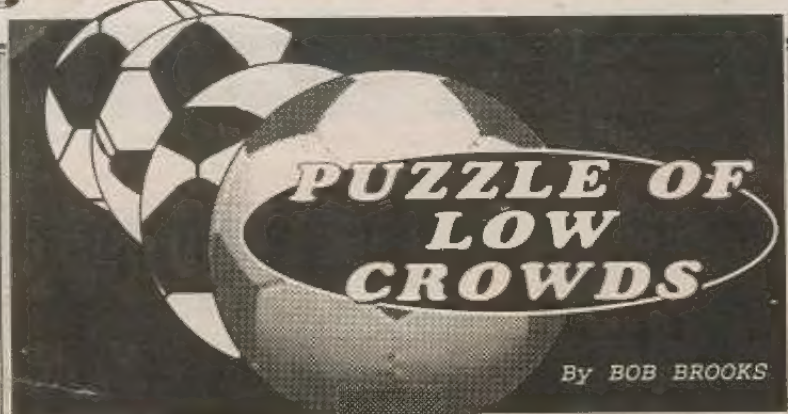
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**INTERNATIONAL  
ACTION  
FOR AUSTRALIA  
NEXT JANUARY . . .**

**KICK OFF — WOMEN'S NSL INSIDE**





By BOB BROOKS

**T**he Ericsson Cup had already divided into two runaway leaders and the other 12 teams, before Brisbane's stunning home reversal. Such a gap hasn't been seen for some considerable time and is certainly an interesting phenomenon.

Sydney United, under astute coach Branko Culina, are maintaining a breathtaking pace. Their lack of goals of last season is forgotten as they continue to put in three or more a game this term. The only possible dampener in their headlong flight is the loss of Tony Popovic to Sanfrecce Hiroshima. He will be difficult to replace.

The puzzle out Edensor Park way is why are their crowds so low in numbers? With full time professionals in their playing staff the revenue must come in, otherwise they won't be able to pay the wages due.

They have plenty of solid terracing and a reasonable number of seats. The only drawbacks, of a physical nature, are difficult parking and no way of getting to the ground by public transport.

However Leichhardt Oval, UTS Olympic's home up until this season, also suffered poor car parking facilities, but still crowds of up to 11,000 rolled in.

It is no secret that the Pumas main support derives from migrants of Croatian background. Why are they not getting behind a highly successful team in huge numbers? It's a puzzle. Surely there is an answer.

Brisbane were hot on the heels of the leaders. The Strikers have been top and will be there again under the experienced Frank Farina.

Lang Park, currently Suncorp Stadium but for how much longer as the company is losing its identity, is an excellent venue, recently updated. It can seat well over 20,000 and offers good cover to protect against the Sunshine State's occasional tropical weather.

Again a team with sole monopoly of a city of more than a million people should be able to draw crowds of 10,000 or more to all their home games.

In the vastness of Queensland, Frank Farina is a household name. He appears regularly on television and writes in the 'Courier Mail'. Even that exposure can't seem to attract spectators to the foremost World Game.

Maybe those attending Strikers games need more of the parochial thoughts and attitudes of Perth Glory's supporters. More noise, encouragement, wit or atmosphere.

Although existing crowd numbers at Ericsson Cup matches compare favourably with those at Scotland Division One and England's Division Two, nevertheless they have some way to go before we should be satisfied.

Maybe, just maybe Soccer folks prefer to be actively involved and not just inanimate viewers of the game.

# ERICSSON CUP

## MATCH REPORTS

### HUGHES VIRTUAL SPECTATOR FOR WOLVES

By PHIL MURPHY

#### Wollongong City 2 West Adelaide 0

**W**hen your goalkeeper doesn't have to make a save in 90 minutes you must be doing something right. That's exactly what happened when Wollongong City beat West Adelaide 2-0 at Brandon Park on Friday night.

The hero of the Wolves 1-1 draw against UTS Olympic the previous week, goalkeeper Brett Hughes was virtually a spectator against the Sharks. Wollongong dominated the game and should certainly have won by a bigger margin.

It was Reda who sent over a pinpoint cross from the left for Kiwi International Neil Harlock to head home after 24 minutes.

Two minutes before halftime, the industrious Reda took advantage of a terrible midfield mixup from West Adelaide to send striker Nick Joseski on his way. Joseski drew goalkeeper Nathan Wildy and slotted the ball away from an acute angle.

West Adelaide desperately needed to produce something in the first 10 minutes of the second half but it didn't happen and Wollongong continued to dominate.

The visitors did show some sign of a revival midway

through the half and during that time midfielder Alex Castro got the ball into the Wolves net from a Jim Tsekini's cross. Unfortunately for Castro he elected to use his hand and referee Greg Leverton pulled out his yellow card.

In a fine Wolves team performance, Reda and Lupcho Naumovski stood out. It was probably Naumovski's best game since he signed with the club at the start of last season.

Captain Matt Horsley and Harlock were dominant in their wide roles and Horsley could easily have grabbed two late goals.

Sonny Sevin gets better with every game for Wollongong and his workrate was good while Martin Bourke did a fine job containing Ross Aloisi.

Best for the visitors was rangy defender Hamilton Thorpe.

West Adelaide coach Adrian Santrac said Wollongong dominated the game in every department.

"I will have plenty to say to my players during the week but full credit to Wollongong, they pressed us in the first half, scored their goals and



always had options," Santrac said.

Wolves boss Nick Theodorakopoulos said he could not have been happier with the performance. Theodorakopoulos said his players played some very good football and took their goals very well.

"We are in a great position but there is still a lot of work to do," the coach said.

"We had Alvin Ceccoli out suspended tonight and he has been our most consistent player so far this season."



#### Wollongong:

Hughes, Van Egmond, Bourke (Chipperfield 87), Horsley, Sevin, Naumovski, Reda, Harlock, Joseski, Lloyd, Connolly (Karamis 59).

☆☆☆

#### West Adelaide:

Wildy, Thorp, Perin (Tibaldi 45), Slager, Hooker, Castro, Aloisi, Kokkinopitis, Day (Alagich 51), Borghetto (Cardozo 76), Tsekini. Scorers: Harlock (24), Joseski (43).

Crowd: 3,949. Referee: G Leverton. Yellow cards:

Wollongong: Bourke (41), Horsley (47). West Adelaide: Day (34), Hooker (48), Tibaldi (64), Castro (68). POY points: 3-Naumovski (WC), 2-Reda (WC), 1-Sevin (WC).

## PIONEER HOMES NATIONAL INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE

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NSW Netball Centre, Church Street, Lidcombe (Televised Games)

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6.00 pm	Sydney Tornados v Canberra	(Men)
7.10 pm	Sydney Tornados v Sydney City Eagles	(Women)
8.20 pm	The Hills v Eastern Suburbs	(Men)
	Gosford City Sports Stadium, Duffys Rd., Terrigal	
8.00 pm	Central Coast Comets v Sydney City Eagles	(Men)

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## AUSTRALIAN & BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY

7-9 Gamers Avenue, Marrickville 2204. Tel (02) 9560-3900. Fax (02) 9550-9332  
Published every Tuesday by FL Press Pty Ltd. 1-9 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe NSW 2037

#### DISTRIBUTION

NSW/ACT: FLP Pty Ltd. 1-9 Glebe Pt Road, Glebe 2037 Tel: (02) 9680 2033  
VICTORIA: FLP Pty Ltd. Unit 9, 405 Flemington Road, North Melbourne, 3051. Tel: (03) 9328-1636 Fax: (03) 9329-1342  
QUEENSLAND: Queensland Newspaper

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Recommended maximum price: \$2.50

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# ERICSSON CUP

## MATCH REPORTS



# GLORY GRAB FROM STRIKERS

## Brisbane Strikers

1

By GLENN DAVIS

## Perth Glory

5

For the first time this year the other side of Frank Farina was bared to the public when Brisbane Strikers crashed to a humiliating 5-1 defeat by Ericsson Cup newcomers Perth Glory at Suncorp Stadium on Saturday night.

The Strikers' unbeaten league run vanished in a three goal scoring blitz within six minutes early in the second half, their first home league defeat since going down 2-1 to Marconi at the start of last season.

The Strikers, who have had a rash of injury problems in recent weeks but managed with some luck to stay unbeaten, went into the match without three of their big names players in Glenn Gwynne, Sean Cranney and Rod Brown.

Farina was not making any excuses after Perth doubled the Strikers' goal against record in one match.

"The way we played it could have been more," lamented Farina in the quietest dressing room at Suncorp Stadium since the Strikers were bundled out of last year's Ericsson Cup playoffs.

"It was embarrassing the way we didn't want to work and gave away stupid goals," Farina, who spoke coolly but with seething anger inside, acknowledged an inevitable defeat had been looming for some time.

"I suppose we had to lose sooner or later but we didn't want it to happen in front of our supporters," he said.

"I think our recent success has gone to some players' heads. We weren't winning the battles we should have and they went through us like a knife through butter."

The early script for an upset came when All White, Gavin Wilkinson netted after only 15 minutes. He amazingly found himself

unmarked from a corner allowing him to drive home the opening goal.

Perth could easily have gone two up one minute later when Bobby Despotovski found Strikers' keeper Clint Bolton stranded off his line, but his curling attempt was just wide of the mark.

Perth's second goal broke the hearts of the Strikers just six minutes into the second half when skipper Gareth Naven ran at the Strikers defence before slipping a pass for Despotovski who rammed his shot through Bolton's spreadeagled legs.

Two minutes later the game was as good as over when poor marking allowed the Glory's Vas Kalogeracos to put away a corner from Scott Miller.

Although the second half was only eight minutes old, Strikers' supporters somehow were hoping for the impossible with time on their

side as Farina pushed players forward trying to snatch a goal.

However, as often is often the case when pushing forward, the home side left themselves more vulnerable at the back this time allowing Paul Strudwick to notch up the visitor's fourth on 57 minutes.

Despotovski again figured in the goal, crossing to Kalogeracos who brilliantly dummied for Strudwick to drive home with his left foot.

Despotovski bagged his double, after 68 minutes, when again he was unmarked in front of goal after being set up by midfielder Vinko Buljubasic.

Brisbane's defender Mark Battistin grabbed a consolation goal from a free kick 25 metres out two minutes from time.



Scott Miller on winning side in Brisbane

**Strikers:** Bolton, Hunter, Phillips, Farina, Wright, T Cranney, Battistin, Becirbegovic (Knipe 71), Brayshaw (Dillon 28), Wehrman.

**Tollenacre:**  
**Perth:** Matassa, Naven C, Wilkinson (Ithier 71), Buljubasic, Naven G, Miller, McVittie (Vukmirovic 84), Strudwick, Despotovski, Kalogeracos (Beretovac 65), Wingell.  
**Scorers:** Strikers: Battistin (88). Glory:

Despotovski (51, 68); Wilkinson (15); Kalogeracos (53); Strudwick (57).  
**Yellow Cards:** Glory: Despotovski (45).  
**Crowd:** 4,028  
**Referee:** M Shield  
**POY:** 3- Despotovski, 2- Strudwick, 1- Kalogeracos.

# KOURTIS INSPIRES FALCONS POINT

By JAI McDERMOTT

## Topper Breakers

2

## Gippsland Falcons

2

Newcastle Topper Breakers recorded their third successive home draw last Friday night when they were held 2-2 by Frank Arok's Gippsland Falcons. The clash saw many chances created but a mixture of brilliant goalkeeping and lacklustre finishing ensured the points were shared at Breakers Stadium.

A healthy sized crowd were on hand to see the match, buoyed by the entertaining football played in recent weeks. There were some fierce challenges in the opening exchanges with both sides desperate to climb out of the bottom half of the table.

The opening goal typified the frantic start to the match, a stinging Falcons counter attack rounded off by veteran striker Eddie Krncevic. After the Breakers failed to finish off good work in attack they were in trouble at the other end. Mark Foy picked out the run of Alex Duric with an incisive pass and the big striker swung in a venomous cross with his weaker right foot.

Krncevic thundered onto the ball at the far post. His header flew past Baker in the Newcastle goal to make it 0-1 after 15 minutes. The Breakers settled after the goal and always looked likely to equalise. In the end it took just

four minutes, a bizarre own goal by Nick Palamaras making the score 1-1. Glen Sprod swung in a corner and Harry James rushed to meet it at the near post. He failed to connect, but the Gippsland defence panicked, Palamaras scoring in his own net with a wild swing.

Newcastle created the better chances in the remainder of the half but failed to add to their tally. James was inspiring up front, attacking the Falcons with aggression and pace. He carved open the defence in the 28th minute, beating two defenders before swinging in a menacing cross. It found an unmarked Robert Ironside just five metres out but his header flew over the bar after he slipped at the crucial moment.

Thomas was unfortunate not to score himself from a goalmouth scramble and then created a chance for Zane, who might have done better when faced with Jim Kourtis one on one. The Falcons keeper was impressive, tipping over a Mark Wilson volley just before the interval.

It took just six minutes of the second half for the Breakers to take the lead, finally rounding out some enterprising attack. James marked his man of the match performance with the lead up to Mark Wilson's goal,

gliding past three defenders before cutting the ball back to the penalty spot where Wilson made no mistake.

However, it all ended rather cruelly for the twenty year old striker, carted off after the hour with ruptured ankle ligaments. The loss of James broke the home side's rhythm and robbed them of their most dangerous player.

Soon after his departure the Falcons equalised through Duric. The Breakers were found guilty of some careless defending, failing to make a meaningful challenge on the edge of a crowded penalty area. The ball ran on to Duric and he stabbed home the equaliser from ten metres.

The Topper Breaker could still have taken all three points in the 75th minute when Zane put Sprod in on goal with an intelligent through pass. Again Kourtis was too good, spreading himself well to save a point for his side.

Gippsland coach Frank Arok was happy with the draw which continued a run of good away form. He claimed he "would have been disappointed to lose" and reflected on some "costly defensive mistakes."

Arok paid tribute to his two front-runners Krncevic and Duric, and praised the performance of goalkeeper Jim Kourtis.

John Kosmina was "happy with the performance" of his side, encouraged by the number of chances created.

He too rued lapses in concentration but praised goalkeeper Liam Baker after a more confident display.

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**Newcastle Breakers:**  
Baker, Pryce, Sprod, Moore, Ritchie, Ironside, Thomas, Zane, McManus, Wilson, James (McGuire).

**Gippsland Falcons:**  
Kourtis, Stergiopoulos, Mangos, Palamaras, Gimenez (Gotis 60), Foy (Tricario 55), Krncevic (Wright 59), Duric, Bell, Hastie, Osman.

**Scorers:** Breakers: OG (18), Wilson (50). Falcons: Krncevic (15), Duric (66).  
**Yellow cards:** Breakers: Moore (50), Ironside (80). Falcons: Bell (26), Duric (51), Krncevic (58), Hastie (83), Mangos (89).  
**Crowd:** 2,231.  
**Referee:** S Micallef.  
**POY:** 3-James (NB), 2-Kourtis (GF), 1-Wilson (NB).



Mark Wilson: Scored Topper Breakers second goal.



# ERICSSON CUP

## MATCH REPORTS

### ZDRILIC LAYS DOWN LAW TO COLLINGWOOD

Sydney United

7

By JOHN ECONOMOS

Collingwood Warriors 0

Sydney United after nine rounds remain the only undefeated team in the Ericsson Cup after they inflicted a ruthless, 7-0 defeat on visiting Collingwood Warriors last Sunday night at the Croatian Sports Centre.

Spearheaded by four goals from ace-striker David ('Lawman') Zdrilic, who not only lifted his personal tally to 12 goals to lead the League's goal-charts, but enabled United to stretch and cement their lead at the top of the ladder by five clear points from nearest rivals Brisbane Strikers.

It only took 37 minutes for the intelligent Zdrilic, (off the pitch a brilliant law-student), to rattle up his hat-trick which quickly had Collingwood arrested and 'thrown in jail' before the Victorians knew what hit them.

Worse still, the unassuming Zdrilic could have scored a double hat-trick as he first volley-flicked an Ante Milicic cross onto the cross-bar in the 10th minute and midway through the second session flashed an angled drive centimetres wide of the far upright.

In the 14th minute Zdrilic opened his account when from a Kresimir Marusic free kick he headed into the target. And four minutes later Zdrilic had his second when he first beat two defenders, then dragged goalkeeper Frank Juric wide and from almost on the byline clipped a shot just inside the far post to have Collingwood on the ropes.

Eight minutes from the break Zdrilic nailed his hat-trick following a neat cross from the left floated into the box by Milicic. Juric fumbled his attempted save as left-back

George Jolevski raced in front of him allowing the hungry lurking 'Lawman' to knock it into the frame for goal No 3.

But Zdrilic hadn't put his gun away. Six minutes from fulltime he met a cross from the left on the far post and from point blank range, the 'Lawman' fired into Juric's chest but recoiled in a flash to volley the rebound back into the target to notch up United's sixth goal and his fourth of the match.

Pumas Coach, Branko Culina was far from joyous by the massive victory, electing to be philosophical by stating: "Look, the boys did alright, but we can do much better, honestly. Any side like ours that misses so many chances, there obviously just has to be room left for improvement."

United's central marker Mark Rudan following a Marusic corner from the right

just three minutes from the break, powerfully galloped into Collingwood's box to head home goal-No 4.

Attacking left midfielder Ante Moric arguably scored the best of the seven when in the 57th minute he played a long one-two with Cvetko to then streak away and turn no less than three Collingwood defenders before belting a rising rocket into the roof of the target from 12 metres for goal No 5.

On the bell the highly skilful striker Ante Milicic ended the flood of goals by finally getting himself on the scoresheet after being fed well by Cvetko.

Goal-ace Zdrilic was strangely subdued in the dressing rooms when he smilingly stated to ABSW: "I've scored four goals before last week at training-but no, not in a real match. It's a good

**Sydney United:** Kalac; Trajkovski (Burns 75); Rudan, Kupresak; Babic; Cvetko, Marusic; Bilokapic (Markovac 67); Moric (Plesa 82); Milicic, Zdrilic.  
**Collingwood Warriors:** Juric; Pak; Kaplanovic, Pryhodko, Jolevski; (Cerrachio 76); Silic, Taladira, Lozanovski (McNicol 72); Tapsai; Vlahos, Taliadoros.

**Scorers:** Zdrilic (14, 18, 37, 84), Rudan (42), Moric (57).  
**Yellow Cards:** United: Zdrilic (21), Babic (53) and Markovac (88).  
Warriors: Lozanovski (13).

**Referee:** B.Hago.  
**Crowd:** 5,451.  
**POY:** 3-Zdrilic (SU), 2-Marusic (SU), 1-Milicic (SU).



David Zdrilic: Claimed four in rout of Warriors by Pumas.

feeling as I always thought I could do it some day. But most of all, receiving good quality ball service was everything, really."

Zoran Matic, Collingwood's taskmaster, always humble but rarely in defeat, stated: "This was a demolition by a far superior team, and my biggest defeat since being beaten once 6-0

by St George many years ago. Tonight we got destroyed as every time we let them play on the break they were much more mobile and came from everywhere. I gambled badly and played two players (Pryhodko and Kaplanovic) I'd never seen play before. "Nevertheless United were superior in all departments, good luck to them."

### TOBIN'S GOAL SINKS CANBERRA

Adelaide City

1

By LANCE LIBRANDI

Canberra Cosmos

0

A tight tussle at Hindmarsh Stadium showed that while Canberra are currently at the foot of the table, they are not to be taken lightly. Their enthusiastic young squad took the game up to the Zebras, although they went down by the only goal of the game. They showed a lack of penetration and experience where it really mattered, in their forward line. The visitors missed the reliability of Paul Wade in their midfield, but still managed to cause the homeside a few headaches.

On a cool evening, the game initially started slowly with both teams cautious. The first chance of the match went to Dino Mennillo with a long range shot in the fourth minute that went straight to Danny Milosevic in the Canberra goal. A better attack occurred five minutes later, though, initiated by a piercing run by Brad Armour. He passed to John Gibson on the left side, whose cross was palmed out by Milosevic. The ball fell to Mark Brazzale near the edge of the penalty area. His shot deflected off of a defender and dipped over the Canberra custodian. It took a super-human effort by Canberra's custodian to scramble back and tip the ball over, to keep the visitors on level terms.

The rest of the first half was a scrappy affair with both sides making errors and turning over possession on numerous occasions. Brad Hassell put a long-range shot over the bar, and then Canberra forward Lachlan Armstrong had a chance to open the scoring, but his 32nd minute strike was saved by Jason Petkovic. Another prospective shot came from George Sorras two minutes from half-time, but again Petkovic was there to save.

The second half was more lively with the Zebras producing much more incisive play. Unisys Cosmos were on the back foot for most of the

45 minutes, with Adelaide missing a golden opportunity to take the lead in the 56th minute, when Milosevic dropped an Armour cross. The goal finally came in the 61st when Alex Tobin rose high to meet a Brazzale free kick, his angled header beating the Cosmos keeper. City could have increased their lead seven minutes later when Salpasidis fired a rocket from 20 metres out, but it thundered over the crossbar.

Canberra had their second solid chance in the 75th, with a fine run into the box by Armstrong. His deft chip was

wide however, and it was all Adelaide from there. Mennillo and Gibson covered most of the pitch, and created some late attacks to keep Canberra in their defensive area. City brought on Michael Brooks and Joe Barbaro, both slotting into the forward line. Both were lively. Cosmos had a final frustration four minutes from full-time, when a free kick from the left edge of the box was cannoned into the right hand post by Paul Dee. Luckily for the Zebras, Petkovic was able to pounce on the rebound, to ensure that City took full points:



**Adelaide:** Petkovic, Armour, Ivanovic, Tobin, Costanzo, Hassell, Mennillo, Gibson, Musitano (Brooks 66), Brazzale, Salpasidis (Barbaro 76).

**Canberra:** Milosevic; Dee, Milin, Watson, Garcia, Kelly, Armstrong, Buljan, Baxter, Koch, Sorras.  
**Scorers:** Tobin (61).

**Yellow cards:** Adelaide: Armour (85), Brazzale (85). Canberra: Armstrong (12), Baxter (16), Buljan (48).  
**Crowd:** 3,323.

**Referee:** B. Panella.  
**POY:** 3-Armour (AC), 2-Mennillo (AC), 1-Armstrong (CC).

### MARK READ'S GUIDE TO SOCCER BETTING (PT. 1)

#### FOR THE CASUAL PUNTER

How often do you think "I knew they'd win!", when checking the soccer results? Would you like to profit from your forecasting skills? Yes! then read on.

Soccer betting may be relatively new to Australia but in the UK, fans have been betting on their favourite teams for years. The increased live TV coverage of the World Game around means soccer betting is now the UK's fastest growing gambling market. Now that live soccer is beamed direct to people's lounge rooms, to make a bet all you have to do is pick up the phone.

Soccer betting is easy, flexible and can be extremely profitable. To illustrate this, here are some examples from the Ericsson Cup matches played on Saturday November 30 and Sunday December 1. The table below shows the odds quoted by Darwin All Sports for the seven matches played that weekend.

Home win odds:			Draw:	Away win odds:
8/11	Marconi	9/4	South Melbourne	7/2
3/1	Canberra	9/4	Sydney United	4/5
6/4	Perth	21/10	Adelaide	6/4
10/14	Melbourne Knights	9/4	Newcastle	7/2
10/16	UTS Olympic	5/2	Wollongong	15/4
13/8	West Adelaide	2/1	Brisbane	11/8
8/11	Collingwood	9/4	Gippsland	7/2

The simplest bet available is the single. If you thought that South Melbourne would defeat Marconi (which they did, 1-0) then you could have placed a bet of say \$20 on South Melbourne to win at odds of 7/2. You would have collected \$90 - a win of \$70 plus your \$20 stake. If you'd placed a \$50 bet on the draw between West Adelaide and Brisbane (final score 0-0) then you'd have collected \$150 - a \$100 win and your \$50 stake returned. There are no tax deductions on either the bet or the win.

To increase your winnings you can bet on more than one match. This is called a multiple. There are no restrictions on the number of matches you pick. If the favourites are offered at odds-on then you can combine some of them in a multiple to increase your potential winnings. eg. a double bet on Sydney United (odds 4/5) and Melbourne Knights (odds 10/14) would have accumulated to odds of 2/1. So, for a \$25 bet you would have collected \$75 (\$50 win + \$25 stake). If you had felt more adventurous you could have placed a treble bet on South Melbourne (odds 7/2), Gippsland (odds 7/2) and the draw between UTS Olympic and Wollongong (odds 5/2), the combined odds being 70/1. For only \$10 you could have won \$700! The minimum bet, at any one time, is \$20.

These are just a few examples of simple bets on soccer. In the next few weeks we'll look at some of the other popular soccer bets - handicaps, permutations, correct-scores, half-time/full-time and first goalscorer.

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### ERICSSON CUP THIS WEEK

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4/5	Perth	2/1	Wollongong	13/4
2/1	Canberra	9/4	Brisbane	even
7/2	Gippsland	5/2	Sydney Utd	4/7
5/4	UTS Olympic	2/1	Melbourne Knights	7/4
11/8	West Adelaide	2/1	South Melbourne	13/8
6/4	Collingwood	2/1	Adelaide City	6/4

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# ERICSSON CUP

## MATCH REPORTS

### MARCONI WIN AT LAST

#### Melbourne Knights 1

By DWYGH TUFFNELL

#### Marconi Fairfield 2

Marconi Fairfield exacted some Grand Final revenge over the Melbourne Knights winning 2-1 at Knights Stadium on Sunday.

Two second half goals in ten minutes were enough for the Stallions to topple the reigning champions who have gained just seven points out of a possible fifteen at Knights Stadium.

The Knights only lie a game out of the top six but scoring goals still remains a major problem.

Joe Simunic scored again for the Knights, this time from the penalty spot in the 36th minute. Dominic Longo was

adjudged to have fouled Knights skipper Andrew Marth at a corner.

The Knights rarely posed a problem after that and, although looking in control, were soon two goals down, nearly three had Brendan Renaud not had a goal disallowed for handball.

Sean Babic netted his second goal of the season with a low shot that beat Joey Didulica after Andy Harper had released him.

In between the two Stallions goals, the Knights had a good claim for a second penalty turned down by referee Eugene Brazzale. Tom Pondeljak twisted his way

past Marconi players before being checked in the area by Paul Souris.

Marconi coach Manfred Schaefer conceded after the game that it was a better penalty claim than the first spot kick they were awarded.

Vlado Zoric gave the Stallions the lead in the 79th minute with a superb strike from just outside the box after Babic had teed him up with a neat header.

Marconi could have increased the win with another goal just into injury time. Simunic was caught in possession in the last line of defence and was robbed of the ball by Brad Maloney.

Maloney raced in but his shot hit the upright with Didulica well beaten.

Not even the return of Knights legend Joe Biskic could inspire any revival as they slumped to their fourth defeat of the season.

"We should be on about 16 or 17 points by now," said Schaefer talking about the frustration that has been building on himself and the players.

"It was good to win to get the three points against our bogey side. Six times we met them last season and all we got was three draws and three defeats.

"We came here with three



Zeljko Babic: Scored equaliser for Stallions.

straight losses, so under the circumstances, it was a good win."

**Knights:** Didulica, D Cervinski, Z Markovski, Marth, Simunic, Lapsansky (Biskic 69), Kutlesovski, Trupkovic (J Markovski 64), T Pondeljak, Kovacevic (Vojtek 87), Banini.  
**Marconi:** Catlin, Bingley, Harper, Foster (Ravanello 56), Maloney, Longo, Babic (Stanton 86), Awaritefe (Casserly

46), Souris, Renaud, Zoric.  
**Scorers:** Knights: Simunic 36 (pen), Marconi: Babic 69, Zoric 79.  
**Yellow cards:** Knights: Simunic 49, D Cervinski 70, Kovacevic 87.  
**Marconi:** Longo 36.  
**Crowd:** 5,000.  
**Referee:** E Brazzale.  
**POY:** 3-Harper (MF), 2-Bingley (MF), 1-Marth

### LAKERS MOVE INTO TOP SIX

#### Sth Melbourne 4

By JOHN RIGAS

#### UTS Olympic 1

South Melbourne Lakers extended their unbeaten run to four games with a lightening display against the highly rated UTS Olympic at Bob Jane Stadium on Sunday.

The win moved South Melbourne into the top six for the first time this season easing the pressure for all concerned. The home team played its best game of the season scoring three goals in the first-half to destroy the helpless UTS Olympic.

South skipper Paul Trimboli inspired his team to victory with a man of the match performance and in the process setting his team on the path to victory scoring the opening goal.

Striker Ivan Kelic sent in a cross from the grandstand side of the field, his cross was half cleared by the Olympic defence enabling Trimboli to shoot into an empty net.

Before the Lakers had scored their first goal headers from Vaughan Coveny, Trimboli and Nick Orlic could have troubled the scoreboard.

Left back Fausto De Amicis came close to scoring his first goal for the Lakers with a 40 metre drive which struck the side netting. Nick Orlic playing against his old team scored his third goal of season as he headed in a Steve Panopoulos freekick in the 32nd minute.

Socceroo striker Kris Trajanovski scored a consolation goal for the visitors when he pounced onto an Alex Kuzmanovic blunder in the 36th minute.

South Melbourne continued to pile on the pressure and it came as no surprise when Panopoulos scored Lakers' third. David Clarkson and Orlic combined to set the nippy Panopoulos in the 39 minute.

UTS Olympic coach David Ratcliffe was forced to make two substitutions at half-time bringing on Nick Meredith for David Barrett and Walter Ardone for Elias Augerinos who were both injured.

Olympic created two chances which could have put them back in the game with Trajanovski shooting from



Vaughan Coveny: Got smart early header which did not bring him reward.

long range and Norman Tome striking his freekick into the side netting.

South Melbourne's best chance in the second-half arrived in the 61st minute when Kelic and Panopoulos exchanged passes in the end Kelic's header fell into the arms of Olympic goalkeeper George Bouhoutsos.

South coach Angie Postecoglou replaced Kelic with Warren Spink in the 78th minute in search of a fourth goal. The change paid instant

dividends with Spink finding the back of the net with his first touch, Spink lobbed the advancing Bouhoutsos.

A disappointed Ratcliffe said after the game, "We did not compete in the first-half we did not create enough chances, in the second-half we created chances to score goals."

Ratcliffe also mentioned that South Melbourne took their chances to win the game. Ratcliffe remarked "they (South Melbourne) had two

**Lakers:** Petkovic, Orlic, Kuzmanovic, Blatis, Panopoulos, Trimboli, Coveny (Curcija 84), Damianos (Polak 73), Clarkson, Kelic (Spink 72), De Amicis.  
**Olympic:** Bouhoutsos, Barrett (Meredith 46), Ciantar, Baillie, Tsenkis, Tome, Emerton, Trajanovski, Augerinos (Ardone 46), Blagojevic, Saad (Bove 38).  
**Scorers:** Lakers: Trimboli (11), Orlic (32), Panopoulos (39), Spink (74). Olympic: Trajanovski (36).  
**Yellow Cards:** Lakers: De Amicis (85). Olympic: Blagojevic (16), Bove (65), Ardone (85).  
**Crowd:** 8,896.  
**Referee:** E Lennie.  
**POY:** 3-Trimboli (SM), 2-De Amicis (SM), 1-Panopoulos (SM)

internationals on the bench, no other team could do that." "Overall the scoreboard reflected our display," Postecoglou ended.

### Norway rated highly . . .

December's FIFA World Ranking list has Norway sitting in 14th place. By comparison Australia just scrapes into the top 50 at number 48.

The two other participants in January's Four Nations tournament are South Korea who are two better placed

than Australia and the New Zealand All Whites at 135.

Norway qualified for USA 94 and several of the players who represented their country during the World Cup have since transferred to other European clubs including Manchester United and

Liverpool.

It is doubtful therefore that Norway will be at full strength due to England's Premier League. This should in some way compensate for Australia not being able to call on Paul Okon from Lazio, Auxerre's Ned Zelic and Stan Laziridis or Kevin

Muscat who are first choices with West Ham and Crystal Palace respectively.

If the FIFA Rankings have any credibility then Australia should find it difficult to gain a result against Norway when they meet at the Sydney Football Stadium on Saturday

January 25.

However as we all know, international Soccer is a great leveller. Results over the years have gone completely against predictions in many games. This can best be illustrated with Bosnia's recent victory over Italy.

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## COPY OF LETTER TO SBS SPORTS

Dear Sir,  
What a shame that you chose to take a bigoted approach to justify your criticism of the appointment of Terry Venables as our national coach. The nationality of Mr Venables has no relevance to his ability to manage and coach the national side. We need a coach with a proven record on the international scene, a coach who is respected and can above all earn our national side the respect it deserves.

You failed to be factual in your comments by not telling your audience that we are in a difficult situation in Australia because the great majority of our good players are not playing in the local competition. Would it not be logical to have the head coach available to coach the top players for 60% of the time? You also failed to tell the viewers that the assistant coach Raul Blanco was on his way to England to meet with the national coach for the purpose of drawing up plans to get Australia to France in 1998.

It is unfortunate that you also chose not to mention the fact that a lot of so called emerging countries in world football have foreign coaches. At least these countries are smart enough to employ foreign coaches so they can learn from them. It is also worth noting that the emerging countries with high profile coaches get to play the likes of Brazil and the full England side. We get to play friendlies against the second raters.

Once again you appear to be totally incapable of accepting the fact that Soccer in Australia is still a minor sport compared to the other Football codes. The national coaches we have had so far fall into exactly the same category. Terry Venables is the highest profile coach ever

appointed. His appointment must surely help our code to get to the level of acceptance we all wish to see.

You also made some comments about the contribution of SBS to Soccer and the amount of money it has cost your organisation over the years. May I remind you that you have had exclusive rights to the game over a long period of time. Tax payers have funded your so called contribution to Soccer for years and yet the amount of Australian Soccer on SBS is minimal. You also said that you don't chase ratings with Soccer for commercial gain. Why not have Ericsson Cup games on Saturday afternoons to promote the weekend games instead of European Soccer?

Your Editorial on November 24 was a disgrace. It was full of emotional diatribes which even bordered on racism. You attempted to play with the emotions of Australian Soccer followers for all the wrong reasons. There was a time that I felt ashamed to be involved with Soccer in this country because of the ineptitude of the administrators prior to David Hill. This morning you brought back those bad memories.

Like every passionate Soccer follower I want to see an Australian born coach take the national side to a world cup. Frank Farina will be one of the contenders but he will be first to say that we are not yet ready for the big step. We need the likes of Terry Venables to teach our potential coaches and help them make the transition to the ranks of world class coaches.

I certainly hope that your unnecessary comments do not divide the Soccer community at a time when we need to be united.

Serge Armansin,  
EVERTON HILLS, QLD.

## MOVE OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE

Dear Sir,  
On Monday October 25 this year, one of the most significant events in the history of OZ Soccer occurred with the official launch of the Carlton Soccer Club. No one should underestimate the significance of this move on Australian sport.

Unfortunately unless in Victoria last week or watching the SBS Sports Show then, like most people, you would be totally unaware of the Carlton launch because the vast majority of the mainstream OZ sports media ignored it.

Nothing exposes the cynical and hypocritical attitude of the mainstream media towards Soccer than this incident. They are always berating the local Soccer fraternity for its shortcomings.

Now Carlton comes along with a very big newsworthy and positive story of great significance which they respond to by ignoring it completely. Of course if it was a big Soccer story that portrayed the game in poor

light the coverage would be massive and ongoing without doubt.

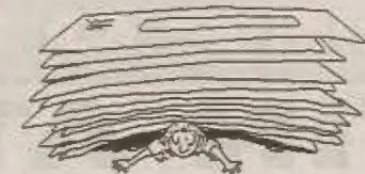
Many people in the El-Tel(egraphy) fan club would like to believe that he will magically transform OZ soccer (during the 3-4 months he is here) with his high profile. Without a doubt anything that smacks of controversy or scandal concerning El Tel will be played up to the hilt by our wonderful, blinkered OZ media, but what about anything that will show OZ Soccer in a good light I wonder?

My mind goes back to one of those countless and unfulfilled promises made by George Negus when he first became involved with SA. He told a gathering at Manly (Sydney) that he would make sure that Soccer fans wouldn't have to use a magnifying glass to find the Soccer coverage in the popular press. As the Soccer chant goes, there is only one George Negus and one David Hill, thank goodness.

R. Melor,  
BONDI, NSW.

## Letters to the Editor

Have your say on any soccer issue in the world. Preference will be given to short letters. Include daytime phone number for verification.



Short letters of about 400 words will be given preference in this column.

The opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily reflect those of this newspaper

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## Bes Murray responds...

Dear Sir,  
Allow me a last response to some readers' comments regarding the Venables appointment before falling silent on this increasingly boring topic.

Following comments made on SBS by myself and colleague Johnny Warren, some readers responded with a volley of counter accusations which ranged from Warren and myself being a pair of grumpy old men to me forgetting my place by daring to voice opinions on television. It was suggested we merely want to hold on to our cushy jobs, that we live in the past, that we are not in touch with the grass roots of the sport and that we should put our hand up and join the administration if we can do better (Johnny Warren did just that and was rejected).

I am well aware that there is a large volume of football supporters who agree with the Venables appointment, although some would be no more flattered by the oldest cliché in colonial thinking: signing a big-name foreigner to solve a problem. But they have a perfect right to their views and I would always defend that right. We, too, have a right to ours.

However let me encapsulate the core of my own objections, in case they were misheard on television: The Venables appointment is a brilliant piece of short term marketing. But because it shifts the focus of public admiration from Australian players and coaches to a foreign

'personality', so far as the sport's long term future is concerned it is an atrociously bad piece of marketing. It is therefore a regressive step and begs the question as to just who is being progressive and who lives in the past when importing everything was the norm. The signal that we detect is that this is a manoeuvre by those who have a short term commitment to the sport and will be out of it as quickly as they get in.

What is stunningly distasteful is the implication that SBS makes or has made a minimal contribution to the game. Perhaps we should reel the clock back to pre-SBS, 16 years ago when World Cup coverage consisted of the final and the opening game after 11pm, when national league coverage was zero, when soccer was played in the dreary winter, when brutal tackles from behind and elbows to the head went unpunished, when FA Cup Final telecasts were fronted by rugby league experts, when Australians never saw nor heard of Zico, Platini and Maradona and thought Bryan Robson was the world's best player.

Real football fans have longer memories and know well which branches of the media actually believe in our sport. They are not fooled so easily. And for the record our jobs are not that cushy. It is indeed a labour of love. But most of us do it at a rate of around 60 hours a week and on SBS salaries not Channel Nine salaries.

Les Murray Artarmon, NSW

## LET THEM GET ON WITH IT

Dear Sir,  
I wish the critics of David Hill would leave him and George Negus alone, and let them get on with the job of converting mainstream Anglo Aussies to the game of Soccer at the senior level.

It isn't any big surprise that the harshest critics are the ethnic migrant community and their officials involved in the game, including ethnic commentators.

The reason is the ethnic migrant officials have a vested interest in keeping their migrant identity in the clubs they are involved with. In other words they don't want to be swamped or taken over completely by outsiders. They should realise that Hill

has critics in the mainstream Anglo Aussie media and officials also, who have a vested interest in other sports and football codes.

Hill would have to have by far the most difficult job of any sport official or administrator ever in this country.

Now if the migrant community and commentators and reporters really want the code to be number one in this country it has to get behind all of David Hill's decisions, even if they don't like them.

He is having enough trouble trying to convert mainstream Aussies to the game without all the others in the game stabbing him in the back with constant sniping and criticism.

The Terry Venables appointment was a case in point. I originally thought it was a bad decision. On reflection I realise that you need a high profile coach to lead the Aussies to the World Cup. Venables being English is a bonus, because mainstream Anglo Aussies will follow the game if more high profile British coaches and players are involved with the game in this country.

David Hill knows that and so do most others, and that's what a lot of people are worried about, especially the ethnic clubs like Marconi and the Croatian ones in particular.

Dominic Scullion,  
HELENSVALE, QLD.

## Fed up with Negativity

Dear Sir,  
It is with great disappointment I see once again one of our finest past Socceroos, John Warren, has attacked Soccer Australia publicly, this time over the appointment of a new Australian coach. This disappointment comes from his continual attacks on Soccer Australia in the media over issues ranging from the axing of clubs in 1995, to the logo debate and finally the decision to appoint Terry Venables as coach.

Mr Warren's comments over these issues have been very damaging to the game, far more than the actions taken. Even if he shares these views it is not up to him to discredit Soccer's image

through the media.

Mr Hill has made all the right moves so far if not for the very reason that he's improved Soccer's previously poor image, fostering confidence and the right atmosphere for business to invest into Aussie Soccer on a large scale for the first time ever!

Mr Warren on the other hand seems committed to sabotaging this by continually stabbing it in the back with persistent negative comments. I believe there is almost a fear of success by Mr Warren and unfortunately many others in the Soccer media. The only positive suggestion made by Mr Warren is that soccer must become professional in Australia if it is to solve all its

problems. I question this thinking.

Unfortunately the message hasn't got through that professionalism is impossible in Australian Soccer's present form and Mr Hill's radical corporate decisions are necessary to create the 'product', which can support professionalism.

Mr Warren and many others in the Soccer media will unfortunately continue to criticise change which they don't realise is the only thing that can create professionalism.

Steven Anderson,  
BARDWELL PK., NSW.



## For the good of Soccer

Dear Sir,  
It's a matter of concern, surprise and frustration that parts of the Australian Soccer fraternity take such a hard line against Soccer Australia and David Hill.

I have been following Soccer for over 30 years. During that time Soccer in Australia has remained an also ran, despite having the highest number of registered players of any sport in Australia and being the world's most popular team sport. A truly remarkable, albeit unfortunate, record of failure.

SA's prime role is to promote Australian Soccer and its future. This means some people and groups who have driven the sport in the past may have to accept a lesser role, for the sake of Australian Soccer. We should all avoid introducing unnecessary criticism, lest it be unwittingly based on protecting vested interests rather than with regard to the ultimate cause.

The task at hand, the objective, is to make Soccer a credible mainstream sport. It requires boldness and vision. When it happens, the money comes in, standards improve, crowds grow, international success improves, players and coaches are properly rewarded and so on. Sometimes you have to look into the distance in order to manage what's in front of you.

So much of the criticism is unfocused, eg 'slap in the face to Australian coaches', what about the next 10 generations of Australian coaches, or worse still false and mischievous accusations of racism.

David Hill has a record of resuscitating the almost-dead, that's why he was supported to the appointment of Chairman. Let him do his job. It's hard enough as it is. Please give Australian Soccer this chance.

John Schaffer,  
EDGECLIFFE, NSW.

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# World AIDS Day kicked off



Anniassa Tann-Darby with Suzie Maroney playing for Soccerwhos.

World AIDS Day kicked off at Belmore Stadium on Sunday, December 1, with a Soccer match between the Shockeroos and the Soccerwhos. While most matches look to the scoreboard for the final result, the most important outcome of the Play it Safe Celebrity Soccer Match was raising awareness of HIV and AIDS among players and fans.

After the match the scoreboard read 2-0 in favour of the Shockeroos who drew on the skills of Marconi's Jean Paul de Marigny, Socceroo Gabriel 'Chichi' Mendez, Matildas

Kelly Golebiowski, Anisa Tann-Darby and Julie Murray, and Sydney Cosmos and former Socceroo, Gerry Gomez. Even though the Soccerwhos included Soccer supremo David Hill, Fox Sports' Andy Paschalidis, swimmer Suzie Maroney, Sydney United's Branco Culina, journalist George Gao and actor Aaron Pederson they were no match for the superior opposition.

Sunday night's game was the third Celebrity Soccer Match which is an annual event of the Play it Safe Project. The Project, with the backing of Soccer Australia and Soccer NSW, uses Association Football to raise

awareness of HIV/AIDS in culturally diverse communities.

After the Celebrity Match Mr Chris Puplick, President of the NSW Anti-Discrimination Board officially launched the Play it Safe Soccer video. "Soccer is a world sport and HIV/AIDS is a world epidemic. This makes soccer an ideal sport to use in education about HIV/AIDS and I congratulate Australian Soccer for taking the lead in this," he said. The video is designed to be used in Soccer clubs and schools to spread the message: "the ultimate tactic... use a condom".

Defeated Soccerwho, Mr. David Hill, Chairman of

Soccer Australia referred to the partnership between Australian Soccer and the Play it Safe Project. "I am happy to see Australian Soccer is growing by the minute and look forward to the continued promotion of soccer and HIV/AIDS awareness," he said.

The Celebrity Match preceded the Ericsson Cup match between UTS Olympic and Wollongong City, which ended in a 1-1 draw. For more information about HIV and AIDS in NSW call (02) 9332

4000 (or 1 800 451 600) or in Victoria call (03) 9347 6099 (or 1800 133 392). Telephone interpreters can be reached by calling 131 450 anywhere in Australia.

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Shockeroos after their victory over the Soccerwhos.



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# AROUND THE CLUBS

## SIMUNIC DECISION — A BITTER BLOW

BY DWYGH TUFFNELL

The Knights 18 year old sweeper, Joe Simunic, has decided to try to play for Croatia instead of Australia.

The decision has left a bitter taste in the mouths of many people, not only soccer followers.

Despite this, it was entirely his own choice to play for the birthplace of his parents rather than his own birthplace.

And continued suggest-

ions that the Knights pushed him into the defection are totally unfounded. They actually tried to persuade him to play for Australia.

Simunic was courted by representatives of the Croatian Soccer Association whilst in Zagreb.

The club he was training with there, Croatia Zagreb, has asked Simunic to come back and join them where he can play with Australian Mark Viduka.

The Knights though, have advised him against joining

Croatia Zagreb where Viduka was promised much but has had little delivered. AC Milan are also interested in Simunic, as are Greek champions, Panathinaikos and Juventus are said to be keen to talk with him. Simunic accepts that the decision will make him unpopular. "I think I will get a pretty big bagging," he said on Melbourne radio station Sport 927 last Wednesday.

It started the next day in Melbourne newspaper the

'Herald Sun'. Leading AFI writer, Mike Sheahan, tore into Simunic saying, "Simunic's decision to represent Croatia rather than Australia stinks. This kid owes Australia."

One can only hope that after all this, that Simunic actually gets a game for Croatia.

He might be one of the best players currently going around in the Ericsson Cup but there is a world of difference between playing with Melbourne Knights and

for AC Milan. Croatia has some extremely talented home produced players with big clubs in Europe and is one of the world's biggest exporters of players. Their best young players are often snapped up by Italian, Spanish and German clubs.

With most of their best players playing outside of Croatia (Aljosa Asanovic, Zvonimir Boban, Alen Boksic etc.) Simunic would probably be well advised to reject the Croatia Zagreb offer.

## Chairman stands down

BY DWYGH TUFFNELL

Henry Siwka stood down as chairman of the Victorian Soccer Federation last Wednesday.

Deputy chairman, Tony Raponi, has stepped into fill the role until a new chairman is voted in at the VSF's Annual General Meeting on December 12.

Siwka had to stand down under constitutional

provisions that disqualified him from the board because he had entered into a formal scheme of repayment under the Bankruptcy Act.

The VSF's constitution allows Siwka to seek re-election at the AGM.

A new seven member commission is also being established by the VSF.

Melbourne Knights president, Angie Citera, is considering nominating for a

## Warriors Ukrainian DEFENDER

BY DWYGH TUFFNELL

Collingwood's signing of from Ukraine, Alex Pryhodko, has finally arrived.

Pryhodko, a defender with experience of first division football in Ukraine the former USSR and Belarus came to Australia last week and has looked good in training.

Coach Zoran Matic was expected to put Pryhodko into the starting line up for last Sunday's game away to Sydney United. Matic has not been satisfied with his defence so far this season

and has said that he would only be interested in signing defenders. "I'm looking for defenders, not midfielders" Matic said. "I've got to sort out what I've got and make the team play."

He also quashed rumours that the club had been talking to Lou Hristodoulou and Chris Kalantzis in Greece.

"I don't know who starts these rumours. I'm not after midfielders, which Hristodoulou is."

The club has been linked with another player currently playing in Greece.

Former South Melbourne

and Heidelberg United Joe Palatsides has been subject of speculation that he may return to Melbourne. Palatsides has been playing for Greek club, Kalamaria, who are currently in the second division.

\*Two terrible Melbourne days have ruined Collingwood Warriors previous two home games.

Lousy weather forced the crowds to stay away during the most recent game against Gippsland Falcons.

Only 3,110 people turned up, a far cry from the opening day attendance of over 12,500.

"It was very disappointing, but it was an awkward day" Matic said of the Gippsland game.

"You can't force people out of their home to watch a game in the rain."

"You have to be a real fanatical supporter to come out on days like that."

The Warriors are expecting a crowd upwards of 20,000 for their clash with South Melbourne but what about the games in between then?

"It is one of our main challenges, how to get more people to the games," says Matic.



## Merger of Clubs in Melbourne

By DWYGH TUFFNELL

It has finally happened. After years of talking about it, Melbourne's Italian backed clubs are joining together.

Not all of them, but three from last season's Premier League have joined forces to hopefully gain entry into the Ericsson Cup within the next three years.

Bulleen Lions, Box Hill Inter and the old Brunswick Juventus make up the new club: Bulleen Inter Zebras.

The club will play at Bulleen's Veneto club headquarters but will retain bases at Box Hill and Brunswick for their juniors.

This leaves the Premier League with two clubs with Zebras as their nicknames and two clubs playing in the black and white stripes of



Italy's Juventus (or should that be Notts County?).

Juventus or Melbourne SC as they were last known in their own right, last year joined forces with the Thomastown Devils to become the Thomastown Zebras.

But the Thomastown half has not joined the merger and will go it alone next season.

Frank Ruffolo, a former New York banker, has been appointed chief Executive Officer of the club.

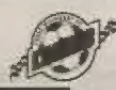
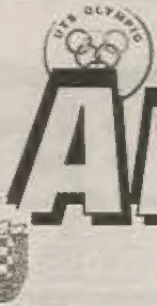
The club will be run along the lines of an Ericsson Cup side even though it will compete in the Premier League.

It hopes to gain 800 members in the first season and has already secured sponsorships.



Collingwood: Seen before their away game against Marconi in October.





# AROUND THE CLUBS

## FALCONS TO GO ON WITH IT

By DWYGH TUFFNELL

Coach Frank Arok believes that the Falcons will go on after their upset win at Victoria Park against Collingwood Warriors.

"I'm very positive and the players are starting to believe in not only themselves, but each other says Arok.

The change of mood comes about because the players have started to believe in not only themselves, but each other says Arok.

"You have to realise it is a completely new team so they've had to learn about each other," explained Arok.

"It was ridiculous how badly we played in certain games when you are not trusting each other with the ball.

"Now they are playing the ball and not just kicking the hell out of it." The victory



over Collingwood signalled that the Falcons may be about to turn things around. It was also satisfying for Arok because they finally beat a side with their main strength, which is height. "We've troubled everyone so far with our height but we haven't capitalised on our chances," Eddie Krncevic's winner against the Warriors owed everything to the

Falcons aerial supremacy.

"That was the goal we've been hoping for and trying to put together" Arok said. But the win wasn't just down to the fact that the Falcons have a couple of tall blokes in their team. "It is a result of some very hard work of those kids."

The Falcons will no longer be pushovers but Arok concedes that the team will probably do better away from home. That doesn't mean that they won't win at falcons Park.

## SHARK HAS KNEE DAMAGE

By LANCE LIBRANDI

West Adelaide midfielder Branko Milosevic will miss up to four games with a medial knee ligament injury suffered against Brisbane Strikers last week. The Sharks expect to temper his loss with the welcome return of Ross Aloisi who has recovered from long-term injury problems. This will be his first match for West for the current Ericsson Cup season.

Pablo Cardozo returns from a one week lay-off with a virus, while goalkeeper Mike Harkness has shrugged off his injury, but will have to cool his heels on the bench with Nathan Wildy retaining his place after some recent impressive displays in front of goal.

The Portuguese club, enquiring about the services of Adelaide City goalkeeper Jason Petkovic, has been identified as first division side Boavista.

While the Zebras will not stand in the way of the young custodian's progress, they have made it clear he is under contract until the end of the current season. This should clarify that Petkovic will not be released for anything less than his current, and growing, value.

Adelaide City have slight injury worries with two of their key players in



Jason Petkovic: Portuguese club, Boavista after his services.

Brad Hassell and Michael Musitano. Hassell has a hamstring strain which may require some time off to heal. If there is any doubt as to the injury, coach John Nyskohus will err on the side of caution and rest the Zebra forward, rather than risk a long-term injury.

Musitano, still not back to full fitness, has had some fluid drained from a badly bruised shin, but should only need a week away at the

most. The Zebra fans still await the big forward's return to form and fitness, and hopefully to his goalscoring best.

Nyskohus has emphasised his side is not yet at its peak, and no game will be taken lightly. "We must win our games at home, or we just will not make the finals," he said, knowing every point from now on will be vital to City's aspirations this season.

## ZDRILIC KEEPS DRILLING 'EM IN!

Rumours are beginning to spread. The growing whisper is that if David Zdrilic doesn't slow down his net bulging activities, he could be on a plane out of Australia heading for even sunnier and more lucrative climes, before the Ericsson Cup Final.

A certain city in the Land Of the Rising Football has even been mooted. Could it be the same one where his colleague Tony Popovic will soon be sweeping, although not the streets?

As the Soccer business grows in Australia so the rumour mill begins to go round ever faster.

Branko Culina was unavailable for comment.

With their skipper already enticed away by the mighty yen, the Pumas biggest title threat could come from clubs outside the Ericsson League and in fact, outside of Australia itself.

This is the reason Melbourne Knights will not

achieve a hat-trick of National titles, but at least they were able to land a double before the poaching finally took its toll.

An interesting suggestion came from some United fans last week. "Why don't United, put a clause into their future transfer contract s demanding a friendly match against the foreign club who buy their players?" Come to think of it, why don't all Australian clubs do it?

In the case of Popovic, the Pumas could have insisted on a game against Sanfrecce Hiroshima as part of the deal. A brilliant suggestion seeing as Japanese clubs love to come over here for their pre-season training in the early year. With Eddie Thomson in charge too, it would surely attract a heap of publicity and possibly make it a good pay day for United. This is something European clubs have been doing for years of course.

## SYDNEY UNITED'S SQUAD

WITH PERMANENT NUMBERS

### GOALKEEPERS

1	Zeljko KALAC
20	Peter BLAZINIC
30	John PEROSH
31	Andrew CREWS

### DEFENDERS

2	Robert TRAJKOVSKI
3	Velimir KUPRESAK
5	Mark BABIC
18	Richard PLESA
19	Joe VRKIC
21	Mark RUDAN
24	Dean CULINA
25	Tom MARIC
26	Ante SERIC

### MIDFIELDERS

6	Robert ENES
7	Kresimir MARUSIC
8	Ante MORIC
9	Robert MARKOVAC
12	Aytec GENC
15	Jason CULINA
17	Paul BILOKAPIC
22	Jacob BURNS
23	Chad GIBSON
28	Ante DEUR

### STRIKERS

10	Ante MILICIC
11	Damir CVETKO
14	David ZDRILIC

## BONNYRIGG WHITE EAGLES SPORTS CLUB (INC. BONNYRIGG SOCCER CLUB)

Have affiliated with Southern Districts Soccer football Association as the Bonnyrigg White Eagles Junior Soccer Club

**JUNIOR REGISTRATION DAYS FOR THE 1997 SEASON**

For Nursery to U/12 Boys and Girls  
10.00 AM — 2.00 PM

**SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER, 1996**

**SATURDAY 24 JANUARY, 1997**

**SATURDAY 1 FEBRUARY, 1997**

**TARLINGTON RESERVE**

**TARLINGTON PARADE, BONNYRIGG**

ALL PLAYERS MUST REQUIRE TWO (2) PASSPORTS AND PHOTO

NEW PLAYERS WILL REQUIRE COPY OF BIRTH CERTIFICATE

**ENQUIRIES TO:**

**LARRY GRANT 9826 9137**

**JACK CIRJANIC 9823 7714**

**VITT MARIC 9823 7714**

**SANDRA DIMIAN 9823 8171**



## STHN MINOTAURS SFC

**1ST DIVISION STATE LEAGUE TRAINING & TRIALS**

From Wednesday

**DECEMBER 4**

**BEVERLY HILLS PARK**

Vanessa St., Beverly Hills

at 6.00 pm

for:— **U/18 & U/21**

**& 1ST Grade**

All Welcome

ENQUIRIES:— **0412 407830**

or **9150 8279**

## PLAYERS & COACHES

### SYDNEY UNITED SOCCER CLUB

The above Club now is seeking players and coaches for the NSW Super League Season 1997

Players and coach are required FOR THE SENIOR SQUADS

**U/21s & U/18s**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE MAKE CONTACT ON

**(02) 9823 6418**



## Marketing: name of game down Wolves way

# Ankle damage for Strikers speedster



மதுரை நகரம்:

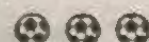
So far he has had a helicopter landing in the

"We had more than 5,400 people there because the local media really backed us in the days leading up to the game."

"A club with a conservative

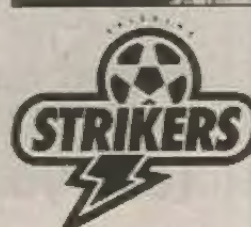


"We now hope the combination of marketing and reasonable results on the field will continue to create interest."



# United Nations at UTS

team here. This week's home game against Melbourne Knights will be a "Ladies Day". This will include free entry into the ground and a number of giveaways and special promotions. The club have undertaken research into how to target the female audience and are looking at



Earlier this year Sydney United took him on a playing tour of Croatia but Becirbegovic chose to remain in Brisbane much to Farina's delight.



The Round 3 postponed away game against Collingwood Warriors, will be played at Victoria Park, Lulie Street, Abbotsford on Monday December 23, 1996.



# ERICSSON CUP

## RESULTS & SCORERS

### ROUND NINE

Newcastle Breakers (Palamaras og 18, Wilson 50) Gippsland Falcons (Krncevic 15, Duric 66) Crowd: 2,231	2
Wollongong City (Harlock 24, Joseski 43) West Adelaide Crowd: 3,948	2
Brisbane Strikers (Battistin 87) Perth Glory (Wilkinson 14, Despotovski 51, 68, Kalogeracos 53) Crowd: 4,028	1

South Melbourne (Trimboli 11, Orlic 32, Panopoulos 38, Spink 78) UTS Olympic (Trajanovski 36) Crowd: 8,896	4
Sydney United (Zdrilic 13, 16, 38, 80, Rudan 42, Moric 56, Milicic 89) Collingwood Warriors Crowd: 5,451	7

Melbourne Knights (Simunic 36) Marconi Fairfield (Babic 70, Zoric 80) Crowd: 3,933	1
Adelaide City (Tobin 62) Canberra Cosmos Crowd: 3,323	0

#### ATTENDANCE FIGURES FOR ROUND 9

1995/96 - 37,961  
1996/97 - 31,810

## NEXT WEEK'S FIXTURES

PRICES SUPPLIED BY **SPORTODDS**

**CANBERRA COSMOS V BRISBANE STRIKERS**  
SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER 1996 - 7.00PM  
Canberra Cosmos 3/1, Draw 9/4, Brisbane 4/6

**MARCONI FAIRFIELD V NEWCASTLE BREAKERS**  
SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER 1996 - 7.00PM  
Marconi Fairfield EV, Draw 9/4, Newcastle Breakers 9/4

**GIPPSLAND FALCONS V SYDNEY UNITED**  
SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER 1996 - 7.30PM  
Gippsland Falcons 3/1, Draw 9/4, Sdney United 4/6

**PERTH GLORY V WOLLONGONG CITY**  
SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER 1996 - 5.00PM  
Perth Glory 5/4, Draw 9/4, Wollongong City 7/4

**COLLINGWOOD WARRIORS V ADELAIDE CITY**  
SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER 1996 - 6.00PM  
Collingwood Warriors 6/4, Draw 2/1, Adelaide City 6/4

**UTS OLYMPIC V MELBOURNE KNIGHTS**  
SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER 1996 - 6.30PM  
UTS Olympic 5/4, Draw 9/4, Melbourne Knights 7/4

**WEST ADELAIDE V SOUTH MELBOURNE**  
SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER 1996 - 7.30PM  
West Adelaide 5/4, Draw 9/4, South Melbourne 7/4

**Bet on any sport  
over the phone.**

*SportOdds*

**FreeCall 1800 650 818**

### Player of the Year Points

NAME	TEAM	PTS
Paul Trimboli	South Melbourne	11
Sean Cranney	Brisbane Strikers	10
Alvin Ceccoli	Wollongong City	9
Jim Tsekinis	West Adelaide	9
Bobby Despotovski	Perth Glory	9
Troy Halpin	Newcastle Breakers	8
Alan Hunter	Brisbane Strikers	8
Kresimir Marusic	Sydney United	8
Dino Mennillo	Adelaide City	8

### TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sydney United	9	8	1	0	31	11	25
Brisbane Strikers	9	6	2	1	18	10	20
Wollongong City	9	3	5	1	12	9	14
Perth Glory	9	4	1	4	22	17	13
South Melbourne	9	3	3	3	11	10	12
Adelaide City	9	3	3	3	6	6	12
UTS Olympic	8	3	2	3	13	13	11
Marconi Fairfield	9	3	2	4	11	14	11
Gippsland Falcons	9	2	4	3	9	12	10
Collingwood Warriors	8	2	4	2	9	13	10
West Adelaide	9	3	1	5	12	17	10
Melbourne Knights	9	2	3	4	7	11	9
Newcastle Breakers	10	1	5	4	14	19	8
Canberra Cosmos	10	0	4	6	9	22	4

### Leading Goal Scorers

NAME	TEAM	GOALS
David Zdrilic	Sydney United	12
Bobby Despotovski	Perth Glory	7
Rodney Brown	Brisbane Strikers	5
Ante Milicic	Sydney United	5
Paul Strudwick	Perth Glory	5
Norman Tome	UTS Olympic	5
Jason Bennett	Newcastle Breakers	4
Matthew Horsley	Wollongong City	4
Eddie Krncevic	Gippsland Falcons	4
Kris Trajanovski	UTS Olympic	4
Jimmy Tsekinis	West Adelaide	4



# TERUYOSHI ITO



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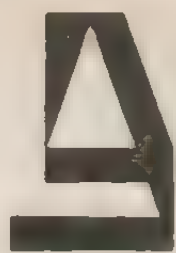


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Australian & British  
SOCCER WEEKLY





**AZZARO**  
POUR HOMME

**Celebrating  
18 Years  
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Success**

Launched in 1978  
Loris Azzaro's men's  
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fragrances

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50ml and  
Soap 100g  
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**New South Wales**

Blakes Pharmacy,  
Kings Cross;  
Westpoint

Photographics,  
Griffith; Village

Perfumery, St. Ives;

A Touch of Paris,

Bankstown; David

Jones, Market

Street; Post Office

Pharmacy, Bondi

Beach; Le Jardin,

Baulkham Hills;

From Paris with

Love, North Sydney;

Plaza Pharmacy,

Green Valley; Plaza

Pharmacy, Bass Hill.

Victoria - David

Jones, Bourke

Street

**Queensland** - Alan

Rogers Pharmacy,

Arana Hills and

Mt. Ommaney,

Rothnie's Pharmacy,

Innisfail; Toombul

Shopping Town

Pharmacy, Toombul

**South Australia** -

David Jones,

Rundle Mall.

**Tasmania** - Olde

Tudor Pharmacy,

Summer Hill

# WORLD RESULTS

## BRAZIL

### Championship Semi-Final

Atletico Mineiro 2 Portuguesa 2  
(PORTUGUESA win 3-2 on aggregate)  
Gremio 2 Goias 2  
(GREMIO win 5-3)  
\*\*\*PORTUGUESA to play GREMIO in Final

### European Champions' League

#### Group A

Auxerre 2 Glasgow Rangers 1  
(France) (Scotland)  
Grasshoppers Zurich 0 Ajax 1  
(Switzerland) (Netherlands)

#### Table

Auxerre	6	4	0	2	8	7	12
Ajax	6	4	0	2	8	4	12
Grasshoppers	6	3	0	3	8	5	9
Rangers	6	1	0	5	4	11	3

#### Group B

Atletico Madrid 1 Widzew Lodz 0  
(Spain) (Poland)  
Borussia Dortmund 5 Steaua Bucharest 3  
(Germany) (Romania)

#### Table

Atlet. Madrid	6	4	1	1	12	4	13
Bor. Dortmund	6	4	1	1	14	8	13
Widzew Lodz	6	1	1	4	6	10	4
Steaua B'hrest	6	1	1	4	5	15	4

#### Group C

Juventus 2 Fenerbahce 0  
(Italy) (Turkey)  
Rapid Vienna 0 Manchester United 2  
(Austria) (England)

#### Table

Juventus	6	5	1	0	11	1	16
Man Utd	6	3	0	3	6	3	9
Fenerbahce	6	2	1	3	3	6	7
Rapid Vienna	6	0	2	4	2	12	2

#### Group D

IFK Gothenburg 0 Porto 0  
(Sweden) (Portugal)  
AC Milan 1 Rosenborg 2  
(Italy) (Norway)

#### Table

Porto	6	5	1	0	12	4	16
Rosenborg	6	3	0	3	7	11	7
AC Milan	6	2	1	3	13	11	7
Gothenburg	6	1	0	5	7	13	3

### UEFA Cup 3rd Round, 2nd Leg

Karlsruhe 0 Brondby 5  
(Germany) (Denmark)  
BRONDBY win 6-3 agg.  
Schalke 2 Brugge 0  
(Germany) (Belgium)  
SCHALKE win 3-2 agg.  
Besiktas 2 Valencia 2  
(Turkey) (Spain)  
VALENCIA win 5-3 agg.  
Anderlecht 1 Helsingborg 0  
(Belgium) (Sweden)  
ANDERLECHT win 1-0 agg.  
Feyenoord 2 Tenerife 4  
(Holland) (Spain)  
TENERIFE win 4-2 agg.  
Hamburg 0 Monaco 2  
(Germany) (France)  
MONACO win 5-0 agg.  
Boavista 0 Inter Milan 2  
(Portugal) (Italy)  
INTER MILAN win 7-1 agg.  
Newcastle Utd. 2 Metz 0  
(England) (France)  
NEWCASTLE win 3-1 agg.

### AFRICAN CUP WINNERS' CUP

#### Final- second leg

Arab Contractors 4 Sodigraf 0  
(Egypt) (Zaire)  
Ashour (7, 56 pen.)  
Ouda (24, 73)  
CONTRACTORS win 4-0 on aggregate.

### ASIAN CUP

#### Group A

United Arab Emir 3 Kuwait 2  
Ahmed (53) Al-Huwaidi (9, 44)  
Al Talyani (55)  
Saad (80)  
South Korea 4 Indonesia 2  
Kim (5) Wabia (58)  
Hwang (7.15) Putra 65  
Koo (55)

## Table

South Korea	2	1	1	0	5	3	4
UAE	2	1	1	0	4	3	4
Kuwait	2	0	1	1	4	5	1
Indonesia	2	0	1	1	4	6	1

## Group B

Saudi Arabia 6 Thailand 0  
Al Temawi (2-pens)  
Mahalel (2)  
Al Mowalad  
Al Jaber  
Iran 1 Iraq 2  
Ali Daei (pen) Husam Naji  
Khalid Sabbar

## Table

Iran	3	Thailand	1
Sadavi 37.		Senamuang 80	
Minavand 54.			
Daei 70			

## Table

Saudi Arabia	2	2	0	0	7	0	6
Iran	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
Iraq	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Thailand	2	0	0	2	1	9	0

## Group C

2 Syria 1  
Jokhadar (7)  
0 Uzbekistan 2  
Shkvyrin (78)  
Shatskikh (90)

## Table

Uzbekistan	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Japan	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Syria	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
China	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

## CROATIA

3 Rijeka 0  
2 Segesta 0  
3 Hrv. Dragovovljac 0  
1 Hajduk 1  
1 Marsonia 2  
1 Croatia 3  
2 Cibalia 3

## ENGLAND

### Premier League

Arsenal	2	Derby	2
Chelsea	2	Everton	2
Coventry	1	Tottenham	2
Leicester	1	Blackburn	1
Liverpool	0	Sheffield Wednesday	1
Middlesbrough	0	Leeds	0
Southampton	0	Aston Villa	1
Sunderland	1	Wimbledon	3
West Ham	2	Man. United	2

## Table

Arsenal	17	10	5	2	34	16	35
Wimbledon	16	9	4	3	29	17	31
Liverpool	16	9	4	3	26	14	31
Aston Villa	17	9	3	5	22	15	30
Newcastle	15	9	2	4	26	17	29
Manchester Utd	16	7	6	3	31	24	27
Chelsea	16	6	7	3	25	23	25
Everton	16	6	6	4	25	20	24
Sheffield Wed	16	6	6	4	17	18	24
Tottenham	16	7	2	7	17	17	23
Derby	16	5	7	4	19	19	22
Leicester	17	6	3	8	17	22	21
Leeds	16	6	2	8	15	20	20
West Ham	17	4	6	7	15	22	18
Sunderland	16	4	5	7	14	21	17
Middlesbrough	17	3	6	8	20	28	15
Blackburn	16	2	7	7	16	21	13
Southampton	17	3	4	10	24	32	13
Coventry	16	1	7	8	10	23	10
Nottingham Forest	15	1	6	8	12	25	9

### Leading Goal Scorers

13 - Ian Wright (Arsenal), 9 - Fabrizio Ravanelli (Middlesbrough), Alan Shearer (Newcastle); 8 - Matthew Le Tissier (Southampton), Dwight Yorke (Aston Villa), Les Ferdinand (Newcastle), Efan Ekoku (Wimbledon), Gianluca Vialli (Chelsea); 7 - Robbie Earle (Wimbledon)

## Division One

Barnsley	3	Southend	0
Birmingham	0	Grimsby	0
Charlton	2	Swindon	0
Crystal Palace	2	Oxford	2
Huddersfield	2	Norwich	0
Ipswich	0	Wolverhampton	0
Manchester City	3	Bradford	2
Oldham	0	Queens Park Rangers	2
Reading	0	Port Vale	1
Sheffield United	1	Portsmouth	0
Stoke	2	Tranmere	0

## Table

Bolton	21	11	8	2	43	28	41
Sheffield United	21	11	6	4	38	20	39
Barnsley	21	10	8	3	38	26	38
Crystal Palace	21	9	8	4	46	22	35
Wolverhampton	21	9	6	6	29	21	33
Tranmere	22	9	5	8	31	26	32
Norwich	20	9	5	6	27	21	32
Birmingham	22	8	8	6	23	21	32
Oxford	22	8	6	8	27	21	30
Stoke	20	8	6	6	27	30	30
Swindon	22	9	2	11	32	28	29
Charlton	21	9	2	10	23	29	29
Huddersfield	22	7	7	8	25	28	28
Queens Park Ran	22	7	7	8	25	28	28
Port Vale	22	6	10	6	19	22	28
Ipswich	22	6	8	8	27	32	26
Manchester City	22	8	2	12	26	35	26
Portsmouth	22	7	5	10	25	29	26
Reading	22	7	5	10	25	33	26
West Bromwich	20	5	9	6	26	31	24
Southend	22	5	9	8	23	36	24
Grimsby	22	5	6	11	24	41	21
Bradford	22	5	6	11	21	37	21
Oldham	22	4	8	10	23	28	20

## Division Two

Brentford	22	11	7	4	35	23	40
Millwall	22	11	7	4	32	22	40
Bury	21	11	6	4	33	20	39
Luton	21	11	4	6	34	25	37
Burnley	22	11	4	7	30	22	37
Chesterfield	21	11	4	6	22	16	37
Stockport	22	10	6	6	29	25	36
Watford	21	9	9	3	24	18	36
Wrexham	20	9	8	3	27	22	35
Crewe	21	11	1	9	29	21	34
Bristol City	21	9	6	6	36	23	33
Bristol Rovers	22	7	7	8	22	23	28
Shrewsbury	22	7	6	9	26	33	27
York	21	7	5	9	23	29	26
Blackpool	22	5	10	7	22	24	25
Walsall	21	7	4	10	21	25	25
Gillingham	22	7	4	11	21	27	25
Preston	22	7	4	11	21	27	25
Bournemouth	22	7	4	11	20	27	25
Plymouth	22	5	8	9	24	31	23
Peterborough	22	4	8	10	32	41	20
Notts County	21	5	5	11	15	23	20
Wycombe	22	4	5	13	17	33	17
Rotherham	21	3	6	12	18	33	15

## Division Three

Fulham	22	15	3	4	36	16	48
Cambridge	22	13	3	6	33	27	42
Wigan	21	12	4	5	39	24	40
Carlisle	22	11	7	4	32	20	40
Cardiff	21	10	4	7	25	22	34
Swansea	22	9	5	8	25	25	32
Barnet	22	8	8	6	23	17	32
Colchester	22	7	10	5	32	26	31
Scunthorpe	22	9	4	9	28	30	31
Northampton	22	8	6	8	31	26	30
Scarborough	21	7	9	5	30	27	30
Lincoln	22	8	6	8	28	33	30
Chester	21	8	6	7	23	23	30
Hull	22	6	11	5	20	22	29
Torquay	22	8	4	10	22	24	28
Rochdale	21	6	8	7	27	26	26
Exeter	22	7	5	10	21	28	26
Doncaster	22	7	3	12	24	33	24
Mansfield							



# WORLD

# RESULTS

## FA Challenge Cup Second Round

Barnet	3	Wycombe	3
Blackpool	0	Hednesford	1
Bristol City	9	St Albans	2
Cambridge United	0	Woking	2
Carlisle	1	Darlington	0
Chester	1	Boston	0
Chesterfield	2	Scarborough	0
Exeter	1	Peterborough	1
Full	1	Crewe	5
Leyton Orient	1	Stevenage	2
Luton	2	Boreham Wood	1
Mansfield	0	Stockport	3
Notts County	3	Rochdale	1
Preston	2	York	3
Rushbury Town	1	Brentford	3
Walsall	1	Burnley	1
Watford	5	Ashford Town	0
Wrexham	2	Scunthorpe	2

<b>FRANCE</b>			
Auxerre	2	Bordeaux	1
Bastia	1	Nice	0
Cannes	1	Montpellier	0
Le Havre	2	Strasbourg	0
Lyon	3	Cen	0
Metz	1	Marseille	1
Monaco	0	Guingamp	0
Rennes	2	Lille	0

### Table

Monaco	21	12	6	3	36	16	42
Paris Saint-Germ	21	12	6	3	34	15	42
Bastia	21	10	6	5	28	22	36
Auxerre	21	9	8	4	28	13	35
Bordeaux	21	9	7	5	30	23	34
Strasbourg	21	11	1	9	27	29	34
Metz	21	8	8	5	22	17	32
Nantes	21	7	9	5	41	25	30
Guingamp	21	7	8	6	18	18	29
Lyon	21	7	8	6	27	31	29
Rennes	21	8	4	9	25	28	28
Lille	21	7	7	7	22	30	28
Marseille	21	6	9	6	19	18	27
Le Havre	21	6	7	8	22	21	25
Cannes	21	6	7	8	14	22	25
Lens	21	7	4	10	25	34	25
Montpellier	21	3	9	9	17	25	18
Nancy	21	3	7	11	14	26	16
Nice	21	3	7	11	12	26	16
Nice	21	3	4	14	17	39	13

## GERMANY

Hamburg	2	Fortuna Dueseldorf	1
Arminia Bielefeld	2	Stuttgart	0
Bayern Munich	1	Borussia Mgladbach	0
Duisburg	1	St Pauli	0
Cologne	1	Borussia Dortmund	3
Bochum	2	Bayer Leverkusen	2
Werder Bremen	1	1860 Munich	1
Carlsruhe	3	Freiburg	0
Schalke	2	Hansa Rostock	0

### Table

Bayern Munich	17	10	6	1	27	14	36
Borussia Dortmund	17	10	4	3	36	18	34
Bayer Leverkusen	17	10	4	3	38	22	34
1860 Munich	17	9	4	3	39	19	31
Carlsruhe	17	8	4	5	30	20	28
Bochum	16	7	6	3	23	21	27
Cologne	17	8	2	7	32	30	26
Schalke	17	7	4	6	25	26	25
Werder Bremen	17	6	4	7	29	28	22
Duisburg	17	6	4	7	17	22	22
Hamburg	17	5	5	7	22	26	20
Arminia Bielefeld	17	5	4	8	20	28	19
1860 Munich	17	4	6	7	25	31	18
St Pauli	16	5	3	8	21	29	18
Fortuna Dueseldorf	17	5	3	9	14	26	18
Hansa Rostock	17	4	3	10	19	26	15
Bor. Mgladbach	17	4	3	10	12	23	15
Freiburg	17	4	1	12	20	40	13

## HOLLAND

AZ Alkmaar	1	Ajax Amsterdam	1
De Graafschap	0	Feyenoord Rotterdam	4
Sparta Rotterdam	1	Vitesse Arnhem	2
Twente Enschede	2	Utrecht	0
NEC Nijmegen	0	NAC Breda	3
PSV Eindhoven	6	Volendam	0
Heerenveen	2	Fortuna Sittard	2
Roda JC Kerkrade	2	Groningen	0
RKC Waalwijk	1	Willem II Tilburg	2

### Table

PSV Eindhoven	19	14	3	2	58	14	45
Feyenoord	17	11	3	3	29	20	36
Twente Enschede	18	10	4	4	28	15	34
Graafschap Doet	18	9	3	6	29	22	30
Roda JC Kerkrade	18	8	6	4	21	21	30
Vitesse Arnhem	18	8	5	5	29	21	29
Ajax Amsterdam	18	7	8	3	23	16	29
Heerenveen	19	7	8	4	32	22	29
Utrecht	18	4	10	4	26	24	22

NAC Breda	18	6	3	9	17	29	21
Sparta Rotterdam	19	6	3	10	21	25	21
Volendam	19	5	6	8	20	29	21
Willem II Tilburg	18	5	4	9	19	31	19
Groningen	19	4	6	9	20	33	18
AZ Alkmaar	18	5	2	11	16	23	17
Fortuna Sittard	18	3	8	7	16	30	17
NEC Nijmegen	18	3	7	8	19	32	16
RKC Waalwijk	19	3	5	11	18	33	14

## ITALY

### Serie A

Bologna	1	Piacenza	1
Cagliari	1	Reggiana	1
Fiorentina	4	Perugia	1
Milan	2	Udinese	1
Napoli	1	Verona	0
Parma	0	Atalanta	0
Sampdoria	0	Juventus	1
Vicenza	1	Inter	1
Lazio	0	Roma	0

### Table

Vicenza	12	6	4	2	21	12	22
Juventus	11	6	4	1	13	7	22
Inter	12	5	6	1	16	11	21
Bologna	12	6	2	4	20	16	20
Napoli	12	5	5	2	17	16	20
Fiorentina	12	4	3	6	2	19	14
Milan	12	5	3	4	19	15	18
Roma	12	4	5	3	20	16	17
Sampdoria	12	4	4	4	16	11	16
Lazio	12	4	4	4	12	11	16
Piacenza	12	4	4	4	14	16	16
Perugia	12	5	1	6	17	21	16
Udinese	11	4	3	4	14	13	15
Parma	12	3	5	4	12	13	14
Atalanta	12	2	5	5	12	21	11
Cagliari	12	2	4	6	14	19	10
Verona	12	1	4	7	11	23	7
Reggiana	12	0	5	7	10	22	5

### Serie B

Brescia	2	Salernitana	0
Cesena	2	Padova	3
Chievo	1	Ravenna	2
Cremonese	1	Foggia	1
Lecce	3	Cosenza	2
Lucchese	0	Palermo	0
Pescara	1	Bari	2
Reggina	1	Empoli	0
Torino	3	Genoa	3
Venezia	1	C Sangro	0

### Table

Lecce	13	9	3	1	25	14	30
Pescara	13	7	4	2	21	11	25
Brescia	13	6	5	2	18	10	23
Bari	13	4	8	1	17	9	20
Ravenna	13	5	5	3	16	14	20
Torino	13	5	4	4	17	16	19
Padova	13	5	4	4	15	15	19
Lucchese	13	4	6	3	12	10	18
Empoli	13	5	3	5	14	17	18
Genoa	12	3	8	1	15	10	17
Chievo	13	4	4	5	15	16	16
Foggia	13	4	4	5	15	18	16
Palermo	13	3	6	4	12	14	15
Cosenza	13	3	5	5	12	17	14
Salernitana	13	3	5	5	7	12	14
Venezia	13	3	4	6	14	16	13
Cesena	13	2	6	5	12	14	12
Reggina	13	2	6	5	10	15	12
C Sangro	12	3	1	8	5	16	10
Cremonese	13	2	3	8	7	15	9

## MOROCCO

### First Division

Mohammedia	1	Sporting Sale	1
Widad Casablanca	1	El Jadida	2
Marrakesh	0	Tetouan	1
Royal Armed Forces	0	Settat	2
Agadir	1	Raja Casablanca	2
Meknes	0	Oujda	0
Widad Fes	2	Khouribga	1
Jeunesse Massira	0	Sidi Kacem	0

### Table

Jeunesse Massira	13	7	4	2	22	10	25
Settat	13	7	4	2	14	5	25
Widad Casablanca	13	6	4	3	21	8	22
Raja Casablanca	13	6	4	3	19	12	22
El Jadida	13	7	1	5	14	12	22
Meknes	12	4	6	2	6	3	18
Agadir	13	4	5	4	12	11	17
Mohammedia	13	4	5	4	12	13	17
Sidi Kacem	13	3	7	3	14	16	16
Widad Fes	13	3	6	4	10	14	15
Royal Armed Forces	12	3	5	4	6	9	14
Oujda	13	3	5	5	11	19	14
Tetouan	13	3	5	5	14	23	14
Marrakesh	11	3	3	5	7	7	12
Khouribga	13	3	1	9	13	19	10
Sporting Sale	13	1	5	7	5	17	8

## NORTHERN IRELAND

### Premier Division

Ards	0	Crusaders	0
Cliftonville	1	Portadown	1
Glenavon	2	Liffield	1
Glentoran	1	Coleraine	0

### Table

Coleraine	10	7	1	2	18	11	22
Liffield	10	4	3	3	13	10	15
Crusaders	10	3	4	3	11	9	13
Glenavon	10	3	4	3	15	14	13
Glentoran	10	3	3	4	18	18	12
Portadown	9	3	3	3	11	12	12
Ards	10	3	2	5	12	17	11
Cliftonville	9	1	4	4	5	12	7

## SCOTLAND

### Premier Division

Dunfermline	2	Aberdeen	3
Hearts	0	Raith	0
Kilmarnock	0	Dundee United	2
Motherwell	2	Celtic	1
Rangers	4	Hibernian	3

### Table

Rangers	14	11	2	1	35	12	35
Celtic	14	8	3	3	32	15	27
Aberdeen	13	7	4	4	28	19	25
Hearts	15	5	6	4	18	19	21
Hibernian	15	5	3	7	16	25	18
Dundee United	15	4	5	6	17	17	17
Motherwell	15	4	5	6	17	23	17
Dunfermline	14	4	5	5	19	27	17
Raith	15	3	3	9	14	27	12
Kilmarnock	14	3	2	9	17	29	11

### Leading Goal Scorers

10 - Billy Dodds (Aberdeen), Pierre Van Hooydonk (Celtic); 9 - Paul Gascoigne (Rangers); 7 - Paul Wright (Kilmarnock), Ally McCoist (Rangers); 6 - Andreas Thom (Celtic), Dean Windass (Aberdeen), Brian Laudrup (Rangers), Darren Jackson (Hibernian)

## Division One

Dundee	2	Falkirk	0
Greenock Morton	0	St Johnstone	2

### Table

St Johnstone	17	12	2	3	36	8	38
Falkirk	17	9	2	6	18	15	29
Airdrieonians	16	6	8	2	26	16	26
Dundee	16	7	5	4	12	8	26
Partick	16	6	6	4	23	16	24
St Mirren	16	7	2	7	22	21	23
Greenock Morton	16	6	4	6	17	16	22
Clydebank	16	4	2	10	11	25	14
Stirling	16	3	3	10	18	33	12
East Fife	14	1	4	9	10	35	7



# WORLD STORIES

## MALDINI and MALDINI TO RUN ITALY

Cesare Maldini is going to take over from Arrigo Sacchi as Italy's next national football coach, the Italian press reported last week.

Maldini's promotion, from coach of the Italian Under-21 squad, was decided by top federation (FIGC) officials, but cannot be announced until after Luciano Nizzola is



Italy '95

sworn in as FIGC president on December 14.

Maldini, whose son Paolo is the national team captain, will be in charge until after France 98.

Maldini's first test as senior coach will be against England at Wembley Stadium, where as a player he won the European Cup with AC Milan in 1963.

## MONACO HAVE princely win

French side Monaco captured its second successive German UEFA Cup scalp last week beating Hamburg 2-0, 5-0 on aggregate, in its third round tie. They knocked out Borussia Moenchengladbach in the second round.

Algerian midfielder Ali Benarbia, man of the match, scored an 89th minute penalty after Swiss striker Marco Grassi, returning after a long

absence with eczema, had fallen in the area.

The referee sent off Bosnian striker Hasan Salihamidzic for apparently tripping him, although he appeared to make no contact.

Nigerian striker Victor Ikpeba, scoring his fifth goal in this season's UEFA Cup, hit home in the 64th minute following an incisive pass from the right wing by Benarbia.

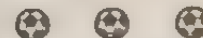
"They said they would beat us into the ground with physical tactics, but we showed that we can play hard as well as skilful football," Monaco coach Jean Tigana said.

Ten minutes from the end Benarbia saw a freekick hit the bar with keeper Richard Golz well beaten.

Golz saved well from Monaco's teenage scoring sensation Thierry Henry, who

came on for Brazilian striker Sonny Anderson, as he blocked his shot in the 82nd minute.

The Germans, European Cup winners in 1983 with a goal scored by their present coach Felix Magath, had a goal ruled offside against Andre Breitenreiter.



## Klinsmann reaches milestone

Juergen Klinsmann scored his 100th Bundesliga goal on Saturday, all Bayern Munich needed to clinch the league's mythical autumn championship.

The Bavarians enter the Bundesliga's two-month winter break holding onto first place, following the German national captain's centennial strike in the 51st minute, which lifted Munich to a 1-0 victory over Borussia Moenchengladbach.

Bayern coach Giovanni Trapattoni shrugged off winning the league's 'semi' title, which has foreshadowed the Bundesliga's eventual champion in 22 of 33 previous seasons.

"I'm satisfied but nothing will be settled until May when the season ends," said Trapattoni. "And the team is going to have to improve a lot before then."

Moenchengladbach's loss sealed the fate of Bernd Krauss, who became the



Juergen Klinsmann: Put his 100th Bundesliga goal into opponents' net.

fourth Bundesliga coach to be fired this season.

Klinsmann's winner came when he deftly spun around defender Michael Klinkert, then blasted a powerful shot from 10 metres past goalie Uwe Kamps.

He broke a personal five-match scoring drought to become the 35th Bundesliga player to score 100 goals. The league record of 365 is held by another former Bayern Munich striker, Gerd Mueller.

## Monaco stumbles to top

Monaco failed to take full advantage of the shock defeat by arch rival Paris St Germain 24 hours earlier when it was held to a goalless draw at home by Guingamp on Saturday.

A win would have allowed in-form Monaco to seize a two-point lead over PSG but Monaco, which had won its last four league matches, was unable to break down a solid Guingamp defence and had to be content with taking over at the top of the table on goal difference.

Bastia moved into third spot with a 1-0 win over bottom-of-the-table Nice while Bordeaux was beaten 2-1 by champions Auxerre.

Monaco and PSG have an almost identical league record. Both have 42 points with 12 wins, six draws and one defeat.

But Monaco appears to have the easier fixtures before the end of the year. They play host to third division Troyes in the League Cup and Cannes in the league while Paris travels to Lyon and Nantes.

Another goal by Yugoslav striker Anton Drobnjak was enough to give Bastia its win over Nice.

Bordeaux took an eighth minute lead over Auxerre through Johan Micoud but it was short lived. Lilian Laslandes equalised five minutes later and then scored

the chance of giving his side the lead by missing a penalty.

Auxerre, which looked weary after its European champions' league win over Glasgow Rangers on Wednesday, had to wait until the 79th minute to snatch the winner through Fabrice Lepaul.

Metz and Marseille drew 1-1, both goals coming from penalties.



## CZECHS IN CONFEDERATIONS CUP

The Czech Republic, beaten by Germany in the final of Euro 96 in June, will represent UEFA in the inaugural Confederations Cup in Saudi Arabia next year.

Germany turned down the invitation to play in the eight-nation tournament, saying its top players would not be available.

Eight national teams are taking part in the cup, which will be played between December 12-21 next year.

The Czechs will join Oceania champion Australia, African champion South Africa, South American champion Uruguay, CONCACAF champion Mexico, World champion Brazil, the still-to-be decided

Asian champion and the Saudi host team in the competition.

UEFA also expects to start serious experiments next year with the concept of two referees controlling one match. Some inconclusive trials have been staged among amateur teams, but Johansson, speaking at the end of the executive committee meeting said: "We need to see how

this works in practice at a high professional level."

Further experiments involving law changes to the three-year-old back-pass law and possible changes to the way matches are timed, will also continue, he said. Any subsequent proposals will be submitted to the International Board, in due course.

## WORLD CUP 2002 VENUES

FIFA confirmed on Saturday that South Korea will host the opening game and Japan will stage the final of the 2002 World Cup.

The agreement, worked out two weeks ago in Zurich, Switzerland, was formally ratified by FIFA's executive committee.

While FIFA had declined to disclose the decision in Zurich, all the details were leaked by South Korean

officials. The 2002 World Cup will be the first jointly hosted. FIFA changed its rules in May to allow for the arrangement in order to diffuse the bitter campaign between the two Asian rivals. The event will be officially known as the 2002 FIFA World Cup Korea/Japan.

FIFA officials said both countries would be limited to using no fewer than six stadiums and no more than 10.

## DUNDEE WINS IN GERMANY



Karlsruhe striker Sean Dundee has been voted Germany's player of the year by his fellow professionals.

The 23-year old South African, who hopes to become a German citizen soon, beat VfB Stuttgart striker Giovane Elber and his Karlsruhe team mate Thomas Haessler to the accolade.

"It's the first time I've won an award like this," said Dundee, the Bundesliga's leading scorer this season. "I feel very honoured."

Dundee is the first winner of the new award, organised by the Professional Footballers' Association (VdV).

The traditional player of the year award is decided by a poll of sports journalists later in the year.

## ASIAN CUP OPENS WITH SHOCKS

Hosts the United Arab Emirates held fancied South Korea to a 1-1 draw and Kuwait left it late to salvage a point against Indonesia on the first day of the Asian Cup Tournament in Abu Dhabi last Wednesday.

Indonesia, considered an outsider to qualify for the competition's second round, was two goals up with 17 minutes to go when its defence crumbled to the experienced Kuwaitis.

In the opening game of the tournament, UAE came from a goal down and held on to earn a draw with South Korea, one of the favourites for the title.

UAE's coach Tomislav Ivic praised his players and hoped they would now build on the result.

"We played a positive game against a very strong team. We hope we could continue and improve," he told a news conference.

South Korea's Park Jong Hwan said his team's finishing was poor. "We should have taken advantage of our many chances," he said.



## Kuwait threatens pull out

Kuwait said today it would pull out of Asia's premier soccer tournament rather than play Iraq.

Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990 and occupied the country for seven months before a US-led multinational force drove Saddam Hussein's troops from the kingdom.

"We are not going to play against Iraq whatever may come," said a Kuwaiti soccer official ahead of today's inauguration of the XI Asia Cup.

Iraq and Kuwait are in

different groups, but would have to play each other if they reached the quarterfinals.

Kuwait is grouped with South Korea, Indonesia and the United Arab Emirates. Iraq is grouped with Iran, Saudi Arabia and Thailand.

Asian Football Confederation officials said Kuwait had yet to formally inform them.





# RISING STARS

## SUNSHINE GEORGIES HOLD VIS

Gippisland Falcons charge up the NYL continued with a six-nil demolition of Melbourne Knights Colts at Falcons Park on Friday. John Hutchinson weaved his way through several tackles to open the score in the 9th minute. Billy Mitroulas added a second in 20 minutes and Carlo Villani got the first two of his eventual hat-trick before the interval. Esala Masi also appeared on the score-sheet in the first half. The Valley boys eased off in the second half but Villani contributed his third late in the game. Best players for the winners were Paul Byrne, John Hutchinson and Andy Mack.

The second half was going the same way when Billy Petrovski was bundled over in the Georgies' penalty area and Zoran Petrovski scored from the spot. The Sunshine lads kept plugging away and got a deserved reward with five minutes to play when Saso Markovski's free kick took a wicked deflection which bamboozled Peter Zois, another outstanding keeper. Sixteen year old Cesar Hermosilla contested well in attack for the Georgies until he tired near the end, while the VIS midfield of Grgo Saric, Brandon Vassallo, Frank Bazzano and Joe Carey was the platform on which many of its best moves were based. South Melbourne scored three times in the first half to down Bentleigh Greens at the Bob Jane Stadium, but could not add to its tally in the second half. Chris Nedza after 25 minutes, George Tsirtis in 33 and Daniel Allsopp in 43 minutes did the damage. Bentleigh Greens fought hard and deserved something for its efforts.

Melbourne Knights eventually overcame Thomastown Zebras by four goals to two at Knights Stadium. Branko Bacak scored a typical short range striker's goal after a cross by Tom Gavran in ten minutes and for a long time it looked as if there were to be no further goals as both teams contrived to miss chances. Two minutes after the break three Zebras were through on the keeper having left all the defenders behind them, but Tom Ukalovic blocked the shot and threw out quickly and the Knights raced to the other end for Ante Deak to put Bacak through for his second. David De Propertis then took a hand with two goals for the Zebras, first rounding the keeper to score from a narrow angle, then forcing the ball over the line after the keeper dropped the ball. Substitute Mario Medugorac then made a purposeful run through the defence to restore the Knights' lead and Bacak completed his hat-trick from service by

Collingwood Warriors were too strong for Springvale City at Ross Reserve, winning by five goals to nil. The goals were shared around between Bill Papadimitriou, Mela Mejedovic, George Makatsas, Kim Bouzins and an own goal. Altona Magic had two goal Pece Cergovski and provider Darko Todevski to thank for its two-one victory over Box Hill. The Magic played well, particularly in the second half, but took the lead when Todevski's low cross was thumped home by Cergovski, who had timed his run brilliantly. In the second half, Todevski's high cross was headed in by Cergovski after it cleared the full back. Finally Green Gully had a regulation win over Heidelberg United by two goals to one. David Perri early and substitute Safet Gec, late, scored for Green Gully and Jimmy Karatosos replied for Box Hill, which was prepared to battle away to the very end.

### SUNSMART NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE

#### Round 7

SASI	0	West Adelaide	5				
Adelaide Blue Eagles	0	Mihalopoulos (20, 36, 87), Mezenof (54, 72)	4				
Cumberland United	1	Woodville City	2				
Koutsouvelis (60)		Perry (36, 60), Calabria (20), TOG (66)					
Para Hills	0	Modbury	7				
		Mogg (15, 55)					
		Adelaide City					
		Sabiyak 3, McGregor 2, Pirone, VanOeuelen					
TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Adelaide City	7	6	1	0	24	5	19
Modbury	7	5	1	1	15	8	16
West Adelaide	7	4	1	2	19	5	13
Woodville City	7	4	0	3	12	6	12
SASI	7	3	1	3	16	13	10
Cumberland United	7	2	0	5	9	15	6
Adelaide Blue Eagles	7	2	0	5	10	21	6
Para Hills	7	0	0	7	4	36	0

#### Round 9 — Northern Division

<b>Wollongong City</b> Gjakovski (54), Spencer (65) <b>Newcastle Breakers</b>	<b>2</b> <b>0</b>	<b>UTS Olympic Colts</b> Skurfis (82 pen) <b>NSW IS</b> Edds (19, 45)	<b>1</b> <b>2</b>				
<b>Sydney United</b> Jusic 60, Aschner 85	<b>2</b>	<b>Marconi Fairfield Colts</b>	<b>0</b>				
<b>TEAM</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>PTS</b>
<b>Sydney United</b>	7	5	2	0	14	2	17
<b>Newcastle Breakers</b>	7	5	0	2	19	9	15
<b>AIS</b>	6	4	2	0	11	4	14
<b>Wollongong City</b>	8	4	2	2	18	12	14
<b>UTS Olympic</b>	7	4	2	1	15	10	14
<b>NSWIS</b>	7	4	0	3	12	11	12
<b>Marconi Fairfield</b>	6	4	0	2	6	7	12
<b>QAS</b>	2	3	0	4	14	11	9
<b>Marconi Fairfield Colts</b>	8	2	0	6	9	17	6
<b>UTS Olympic Colts</b>	7	2	0	5	8	18	6
<b>ACT AS</b>	7	1	0	6	5	18	3
<b>Sydney United Colts</b>	7	0	0	7	2	17	0

Note: Readers will have wondered why there was only South Australian Youth League results in last week's ABSW. Soccer Australia were unable to supply the others because some clubs had failed to phone results through to SA.

#### Round 9 — Southern Division

<b>Gippisland Falcons</b> (Villani 3, Mitroulas, Hutchinson, Masi)	<b>6</b>	<b>Melbourne Knights Colts</b>	<b>0</b>				
<b>Altona Magic</b> Cergovski 2	<b>2</b>	<b>Box Hill</b> Karatosos	<b>1</b>				
<b>VIS</b> Petrevski	<b>1</b>	<b>Sunshine Georgies</b> Markovski	<b>1</b>				
<b>Green Gully</b> Perri, Gec	<b>2</b>	<b>Heidelberg United</b> Ouliaris	<b>1</b>				
<b>South Melbourne</b> Nedza, Tsirtis, Allsopp	<b>3</b>	<b>Bentleigh Greens</b>	<b>0</b>				
<b>Melbourne Knights</b> Bacak 3, Medugorac	<b>4</b>	<b>Thomastown Zebras</b> De Propertis 2	<b>2</b>				
<b>Springvale City</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Collingwood Warriors</b> Papadimitriou, Mejedovic, Makatsas, Bouziss,og	<b>5</b>				
<b>TEAM</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>PT</b>
<b>VIS</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>South Melbourne</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Gippisland Falcons</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Sunshine Georgies</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Melbourne Knights</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Collingwood Warriors</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Green Gully</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Melbourne Knights Colts</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Altona Magic</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Springvale City Reds</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Bentleigh Greens</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Heidelberg United</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Thomastown Zebras</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Box Hill</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2</b>

## Aussies Abroad...

By HENRY WIZGIER

Paul Agostino must have been going for Damian Mori's 'quickest-ever' scoring record, last week. He put Bristol City ahead within a minute of their FA Cup 1st Round Replay against Swansea City. That goal was enough to take the west country club into the next round.

While for various reasons, Mark Bosnich, Paul Okon and Ned Zelic have been grabbing all the headlines among the 'Aussies Abroad', Craig Moore has been having an excellent season and is a permanent fixture in the Glasgow Rangers defence.

He usually plays wide but last week was marshalled into the centre during the 'Gers' 3-0 win at Aberdeen.

In fact, it has become a bit of a thin time for the 'big names' just lately, with Okon, Zelic and Bosnich all out through injuries. However, Okon is due back any time.

Tenerife go marching on in the UEFA Cup and will be in the Quarter Finals next March with hopefully, Aurelio Vidmar in the line-up. Unfortunately though, he has found it a bit hard to settle on the sunny isle and has been warming the bench more often than pounding the grass. Once more he was a mere spectator as the Spaniards crushed his old club Feyenoord 4-2.

What are the odds against TWO Aussies appearing in European Finals next merry month of May? Zelic's Auxerre also

qualify for the next stage of the Champions Cup which will resume next March as a straightforward knock-out over two-legs. They will meet German Champions Borussia Dortmund, one of the favourites to take out the Champions Cup.

Things haven't been going too well for the aforementioned Damian Mori who has had only a couple of run-outs, as sub, for Borussia Moenchengladbach. Since the Germans bought the Swede Martin Dahlin to beef up their attack, poor old Damian hasn't had much of a look-in.

There are currently 26 Aussies playing in Great Britain alone and this bit of information came as something of a shock to Mister Venables. It was

believed to be this factor, which persuaded the ex-England boss to take charge of the Australian team, not the \$400,000 carrot which in world football terms is small change.

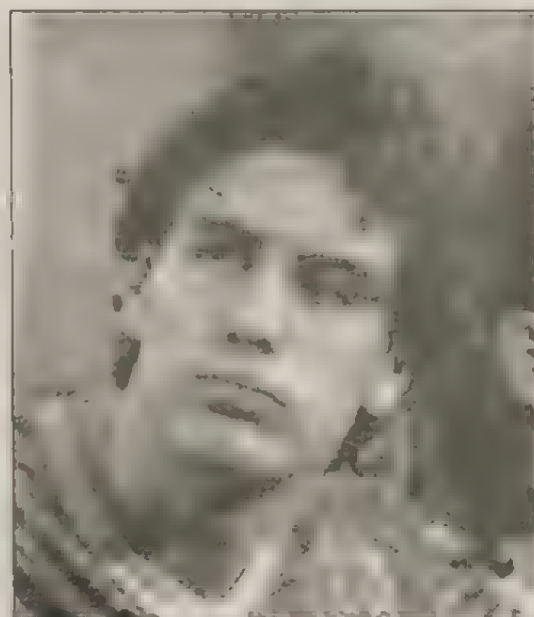
"I didn't realise there were so many Australians playing over here", he revealed to Martin Tyler the ace British TV football commentator. This reflects not only the sudden change which has taken place in Aussie soccer within such a short space of time, but also the new way it's being seen by foreigners. It's hard for many Aussies to appreciate this but your average European knows nothing about Australian soccer and still thinks that virtually all Aussies play only cricket

and oval ball games.

Perhaps if more people over here realised this, they might understand why the top European and South American nations have only put in under-strength National teams, B-teams and club teams against full Australian National sides, in the past.

If the selection of Venables does nothing else it will make the world sit up and take notice of the fact that we are now beginning to take the World Game seriously and they will start fielding serious teams against us.

What are the odds against a first-ever appearance at Wembley for the Australian National team within a couple of years?

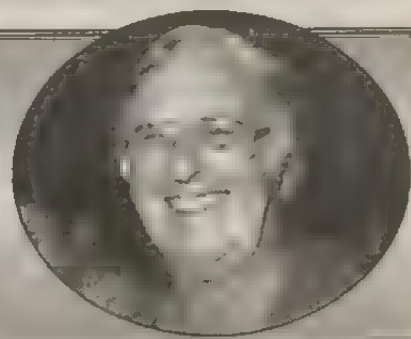




# News in Brief



... by BOB BROOKS



**M**et a dietitian at the Test Match in Sydney. Kym was phoned by Clive Lloyd to ask if she'd take on the task of trying to help 27 year old Brian Lara. Why a dietitian?

As you may have noticed the West Indies have KFC as one of their sponsors on their tour of Australia. In fact on the Sunday of the Test, for lunch, KFC delivered loads of chicken and chips (or is that french fries?).

Fried food has a tendency to carry, by default, a great deal of fat and that is not considered healthy. Now if these fellows from the Caribbean are having a fair whack of chicken and chips, their diet is well out of balance.

Lara wants to continue to play at the top level for years to come. As any player, of cricket or soccer who is in his 30s will tell you, they watch their diet very carefully.

In any case fancy calling any food 'fried' something or other, in this diet conscious era.



It's happened, as predicted in this paper. A player who has graduated from the AIS is swearing his allegiance to another country.

After considerable time in Canberra, subsidised by Australian taxpayers money, Joe Simunic has decided to turn his back on this country

and try to be picked by Croatia.

May he rest easy in his mind for the rest of his life. What happens, if by the time Simunic is 23, he hasn't been picked for Croatia. Will he go running to Oz-Tel or his successor, begging to be considered for Australia?

Yes there have been some marvellous players produced from the former Yugoslavia and that part now known as Croatia. However, most of them play outside that country.

Maybe young, impressionable Simunic prefers to have less rivals for the national coach to choose from. After all Croatia has a population less than a third of Australia's.

Let us hope that he is the first and last AIS graduate to reject Australia.

Ah well, it is only a game, so maybe we shouldn't be so bitter.



The two Jocks - Thomson and Sermanni - have made their first Australian signings. Reports have it that Graham Arnold will leave Europe, where he has had a full time career in Holland and Belgium, for Japan in January.

Also joining Sanfrece Hiroshima is Tony Popovic from Sydney United. 'Poppa' has been keen on an overseas contract for some time, now he's cracked it.

At least the four of them



will be able to understand each other. It will be an interesting experience for the coaches and players where they are the odd ones out.

However Arnold and Popovic will definitely be playing in front of the biggest crowds of their careers on a week by week basis.

Diet was mentioned earlier, hope they like sashimi - raw flesh with washabi green mustard. If they think English mustard was hot, wait till they get some of the green variety - knocks your head off!



Some of you would be wondering where the Youth League reports have gone. Unfortunately our correspondent, Roy Hay had to fly to England in a rush. Roy's father had died.

On behalf of ABSW, the readers and your friends in the game we extend our sincere condolences to you Roy and your family.

We hope to resume normal service with the report from the NYL in December 16's

edition.

Had a reminder of strange names in Soccer in the Blacktown and District Soccer Football Association. There is a church and school called Our Lady Of Lourdes.

Name of the team? OLOL. Sounds more like an expletive!



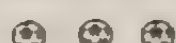
Perth Glory are keen to play all their home games on Sundays. As readers know, "We only score on Sundays" was the chant at a recent game where they went down 0-3 at Perth Oval.

Seems they've applied to Soccer Australia and we are waiting on a response. Probably the only reason to refuse is any TV schedules which might be affected. However, Optus surely wouldn't fly a production team from over East all the way to the Western Australia capital for just one game.



Janene Mar reports that the visit by the USA Women's team has been

postponed. If it happens, it will be March or April.



South Melbourne continue to work hard on the promotional front. Well they've plenty of competition with Collingwood now and Carlton next season.

On the Friday before each home game, the Lakers host a Media Conference in the early afternoon. The coaching staff and players are present giving the opportunity to the daily papers, radio and TV to take away plenty of news items.

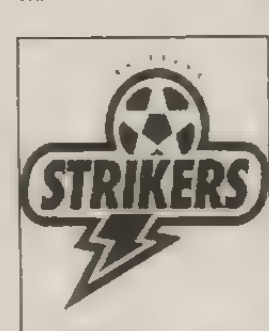
The Club issues plenty of 'media releases' about coming events, what they're 'going to achieve' in the next match and how they went in the previous encounter.



Brisbane Strikers keep the Media Releases pouring out. They deserve bigger crowds. Their ground, 'Suncorp Stadium' is conveniently situated. It is a proper football shaped pitch for the World Game and there's plenty of comfort for spectators.

Additionally the Strikers

are in second spot on the Eriesson Cup ladder and playing attractive, attacking Soccer. What's missing? Why aren't the crowds twice as big? These must be questions exercising the minds of their Management team.

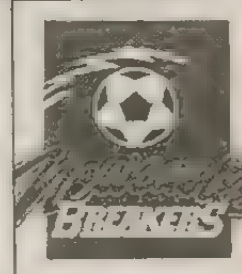


Newcastle Topper Breakers lets everyone know when the team will be travelling into and out of Sydney on their way to games. Useful information for radio and TV sports teams.

There's plenty of entertainment in store for fans of the Topper Breakers. Radio Station KOFM have become involved with giveaways. Dinners for Two can be won as can \$500 in the 500 Club.

The Newcastle Herald 'One on One' competition has \$300.00 to be won. Also free entry into one of Newcastle's top entertainments spots, 'Fanny's Nightclub'.

Yes they're moving along in Newcastle.



Carlton Soccer Club will predictably be called the 'Blues'.

It is interesting to note that John Elliott, Club President stated they were going into Soccer to be the best. It'll take time of course but watch them progress.

It is likely that they will recruit youngsters and form an Academy along the lines of the AIS. The students are thought to be coming from Australia and overseas.

They have sold well over \$100,000 worth of Foundation memberships and have set themselves a target of a million dollars in this area. It'll be interesting to track their progress.



## SERIE A REPORT.....

By LANCE LIBRANDI

**Atalanta** 2 **Napoli** 2  
(Morfeo 40, Sgro 75) (Aglietti 46, Caccia 51)

Napoli is going from strength to strength in recent weeks, this round gaining a valuable away point from Atalanta. The southerners were a goal down at half-time, but rallied early in the second period to take the lead with Napoli forward Caccia setting up the first goal and scoring the second. Atalanta managed an equaliser 15 minutes from the end, but Napoli were content to share the result, and having established a strong 5th place. The outcome was even more impressive considering Napoli defender Ayala was red carded after only 5 minutes for striking Inzaghi following an altercation. The ledger was evened up in the 43rd minute when Atalanta defender Sottil received a second yellow card.

**Inter** 2 **Cagliari** 2  
(Ganz, Djorkaeff pen) (Muzzi, Silva)

Unfortunately, details of this game were unavailable at time of going to print.

**Juventus** 1 **Bologna** 0

(Zidane 51)

The black and whites capped off a good fortnight with another win, following recent successes including the Toyota Cup final victory last week. French midfielder Zidane has found good form this season for Juve, and scored the winner after capitalising on a lapse in defense by Bologna, who are also playing well at the moment. The losing side were reduced to 10 men in the 72nd minute, when De Marchi committed a professional foul, on the last line of defense, on Del Piero. Juve coach Lippi was happy his team showed no ill effects from their trip to Tokyo, with their celebrations moving from continent to continent. They seem to be improving and marching towards another championship.

**Perugia** 1 **Vicenza** 1

(Gauteri 34) (Iannuzzi 10)

Vicenza retain top position in Italy even though they finished on level terms after this visit to Perugia. The form side took the lead early with a great goal by Iannuzzi, but conceded the leveller before half-time. Perugia had 9 shots on goal to 2 in the match, but Vicenza added fighting defensive qualities to their

talents this season, and critics are suggesting their stay at the top may not necessarily be temporary.

**Piacenza** 3 **Milan** 2  
(Valoti 9, Di Francesco 44, Luiso 71) (Dugary 47, 68)

This was the shock result of the round with lowly-placed Piacenza landing another body-blow on the slumping Milan. Ultimately, this result led to the dismissal of their coach Tabarez who was replaced by infamous national team manager Arrigo Sacchi. Sacchi stepped down from his national team post, to return to the club he last coached in 1991. This game saw Milan concede two goals in the first period, before levelling and looking to at least draw the game. The final goal came from a spectacular overhead bicycle kick by in-form striker Luiso to seal the match, and Tabarez's fate. Baggio spent the game on the bench and Costacurta, Simone and keeper Rossi had days they would rather forget.

**Reggiana** 0 **Lazio** 2

(Nedved 84, Casirgahi 90)

Two late goals to Lazio saw them take the much-needed three points in this visit to Reggiana. Lazio coach Zeman can breathe a little easier, however Reggiana's fate looks destined to be the Serie B next season. Their woes were compounded in this game when their defender Beiersdorfer was sent off in the 49th minute after a second yellow card. The German, bitter after the decision, announced if he could not adjust to Italian soccer and its regulations, he would return to Germany. New Reggiana coach Oddo has a big job ahead, his team winless to date and defeated in their last four consecutive outings.

**Roma** 3 **Fiorentina** 3  
(Balbo 15 pen, Del Vecchio 71, Totti 87) (Rui Costa 22, Batistuta 30, 74)

An avalanche of goals at the Stadio Olimpico in Rome, where the lead see-sawed and both these entertaining sides finished on level terms. It was the day of the forwards with strong displays by Balbo and Del Vecchio for Roma, and Rui Costa, Batistuta and Oliveira for Fiorentina. In analysis, Fiorentina

should have taken the match, being a goal up twice and dominating the closing stages, but Roma hung on and both sides are middle of the ladder, keeping up.

**Udinese** 3 **Parma** 1  
(Apolloni 64 og, Bierhoff 81, 90) (Ze Maria 39)

A second-half flurry by Udinese, in particular German import Bierhoff, killed off Parma in another disappointing day for the declining side. Parma took the lead early, but were then torpedoed by the sending off of defender Cannavaro a minute before half-time, for a professional foul. They are now six games without a win, three points out of the relegation zone, and surely on thin ice as far as coach Ancelotti goes. Their next game, home against Atalanta, has become a must-win.

**Verona** 1 **Sampdoria** 1

(Corini 70) (Montella 51)

Sampdoria controlled their away visit to lowly Verona, but wasted opportunities to take full points and had to settle for a draw. Montella and Mancini played well for Sampdoria but could not find the elusive winner. Verona's defense held up well, and they have confirmed their support for coach Cagni, saying his job is not threatened. They are still deep in relegation territory however, while Sampdoria rise to 6th in the Serie A.

**TABLE (AS AT ROUND 11)**

Vicenza 21, Inter 20, Juventus 19\*, Bologna 19, Napoli 17, Sampdoria 16, Roma 16, Perugia 16, Milan 15, Fiorentina 15, Udinese 15\*, Lazio 15, Piacenza 15, Parma 13, Atalanta 10, Cagliari 9, Verona 7, Reggiana 4 (\* = game in hand).

**Leading Goalscorers:**

9-Balbo (Roma), 8-Inzaghi (Atalanta), Luiso (Piacenza), 7-Weah (Milan), 6-Mancini (Sampdoria), Bierhoff (Udinese), Otero (Vicenza).

(Next round - Round 12 played 8/12/96)

Bologna v Piacenza, Cagliari v Reggiana, Fiorentina v Perugia, Lazio v Roma (late game), Milan v Udinese, Napoli v Verona, Parma v Atalanta, Sampdoria v Juventus, Vicenza v Inter.

## WOMEN'S WRITES Overflow...

### NSW INSTITUTE OF SPORT

Colours: Navy/White (Home), Royal Blue/Navy (Away)

Shirt No.	Player	Position	Age
1	Jenny Praszczalek	GK	19
2	Danielle Clarke	D	15
3	Neisha Klessattel	D	16
4	Kristine Collins	D	15
5	Anissa Tann-Darby	D	29
6	Louise McMurtrie	D	20
7	Joanne Peters	M	17
8	Kelly Golebiowski	F/M	15
9	Katrina Boyd	F	25
10	Taryn Rockall	M	19
11	Nicole Davis	D/M	17
12	Ashleigh Hewson	M	17
13	Sandra Stavrou	F	19
14	Heather Garriock	M	14
15	Gill Thomson	M	20
16	Lisa Collins	M/F	16
17	Amanda Boyle	M	17
18	Elizabeth Cotton	F	20
19	Cassandra Kell	GK	16
20	Kristen Dorsch	GK	21

Coach: Connie Selby Asst Coach: Leigh Wardell

### NORTHERN NSW ITC

Colours: White/Black (Home), Red/Black (Away)

Shirt No.	Player	Position	Age
1	Debra Carlin	GK	29
2	Joanne Powell	D	22
3	Bridgette Starr	D/M	21
4	Kristy Dugomanov	D	19
5	Lissy Bagwell	D	23
6	Sarah Fitzgerald	M/F	20
7	Jodie Randall	M/F	15
8	Danielle Small	M	17
9	Shelley Youman	M	29
10	Lisa Casagrande	M/F	18
11	Kristy Mehan	F	23
12	Lisa Richards	D/F	18
13	Tracy Baker	M	17
14	Tracie McGovern	D/M	18
15	Trudy Diamond	D	20
16	Kristy Wright	GK	16
17	Kristy Palozzi	D/F	17
18	Bronwyn Nutley	M	13

Coach: Mark Jones Asst Coach: Shelley Youman  
Manager: Milly Dugomanov Physio: John Wolinski



# WOMEN'S WRITES

BY JANENE MAR

## VIC & SA CLAIM FIRST LEAGUE POINTS IN ANSETT AUSTRALIA SUMMER SERIES 96/97

**Vivianne's Collection ITC Victoria 3 ACT Academy of Sport 1**  
(Terek 23, Zacharopoulos 83, Bisby 91) (Karp 79)

ITC Victoria put away the goals when it mattered to defeat the ACT Academy of Sport 3-1 last Friday afternoon at the AIS Canberra, writing themselves into the record books as victor of the first ever match in national league history.

The scoreline in no way reflected the shape of the clash, ACTAS by far creating the greater number of scoring chances, but unable to get in that last important touch against an unyielding Victorian defence. The Victorians on the other hand were able to convert the majority of their few assaults on goal.

The Ansett Australia Summer Series unveiling was marred by constant torrential rain for the duration of the match. Consequently neither side could produce its optimum brand of football, although each of the goals was a quality strike.

The opening fifteen minutes was a sluggish start played out in midfield, each feeling out the opposition, and the run of the ball on the wet surface. It was ACTAS who first discovered their touch, setting out on a sustained raid on goal, creating three dangerous attacks in a five minute period. Tassie 'import' Zoe Nolan had the

best opportunity, a low cross from the right escaping the clutches of Victoria keeper Caroline Lynch and falling at her feet in front of goal. Zolan's one touch to control the ball was enough time for the defence to block the shot.

After surviving unscathed, it was Victoria who took the lead in the 23rd minute with striker Leigh Terek creating a goal from nothing. Seemingly marked on the left hand edge of the 18 yard box, Terek made an inch of space before blasting in her shot over the keeper into the far top corner of the net.

Ten minutes later, a tangle in midfield saw the accident-prone Lizzy Claydon catch the boot of her ACT opponent to the side of the head. The Aussie midfielder from Perth was taken to hospital, receiving 13 stitches to her ear and head, and rendering her unfit for the remainder of the round.

The second half saw ACT with 80% of the possession, but Victoria marshalled even harder in defence and frustrated the home side who seemed laboured and hesitant in sight of goal. Twice striker Kim Channing watched in agony as her shot rattled the woodwork. But ACT's determination paid off finally in the 77th minute when

**ITC Victoria:** Lynch, Bisby, Sailer, Carey, Digiammarco, Walker, Hamilton, Claydon, Terek, Zacharopoulos, Nolan.  
**Subs:** McEvoy, Bruzzese, Shuttleworth.

**ACT Academy of Sport:** Beattie, Hepperlin, Bartlett, Butler, Cox, Hepperlin, Wilson, Doyle, Foxhill, Channing, Karp.

Amy Wilson released a defence-splitting through ball to find WA 'import' Tal Karp on the run, who coolly drove the ball in for the equaliser.

But the home side's joy was short-lived when four minutes later, against the run of play, Victorian Kathy Zacharopoulos sent in a speculative drive from 22 metres which flew just inside the post to regain the lead 2-1.

ACT fought on and etched out three more good chances to draw level, but without any luck. A minute into injury time, their hopes were dashed as Victoria's Louisa Bisby surged upfield, receiving the ball at full pace, ran past the defence and shot on the run from the edge of the box for a final scoreline of 3-1.

**SA Sports Institute 2 ACT Academy of Sport 1**  
(Kristy Moore 7m 14m) (Traci Bartlett 16m)

SA Sports Institute held out against a determined ACT Academy of Sport for a 2-1 victory last Sunday at the AIS Canberra to clearly lead the league's South Conference at the conclusion of Round One.

Starting at a cracking pace, the match provided nailbiting entertainment throughout. After a classy display the previous day to thrash Victoria 6-1, SA were made to fight for most of this match to defend their early lead.

After just 7 minutes, SA striker Kristy Moore continued where she left off the previous day to give her side the opening goal. In a quick counter-attack, Moore latched onto a long ball played out from defence over the opposition backline. Shadowed by her marker, Moore did well to smash her shot past advancing keeper Amy Beattie diving at her feet. Beattie was left to retrieve the ball from the back of the net, and a bloody nose.

Moore was quick off the mark again in the 14th minute, in pursuit of a high bobbing ball in front of goal, the backspin confusing the defence. The OAP player doubled the lead from a 10 metre drive with ACT's Beattie stranded and her defence appealing for offside.

Against the run of play, just two minutes later, ACT defender Traci Bartlett brilliantly converted an Amy Wilson freekick from the right with a 15 metre header over the goalkeeper to put the home side back in the running at 2-1.

Eager to record a point at home, ACT increased the intensity for the remainder of the match in search of an equaliser, but despite countless attacking moves, failed against a gutsy SA outfit. The visitors had their chances too, but were unable to replicate the outstanding attacking raids of the Saturday match.

A repeat of their opening match scoring blues, ACT never gave up on their mission, only to see SA's defence soak up everything thrown at them. Cindy Doyle came closest

**SA Sports Institute:** White, Holland, Winn, Thomas (Ruotolo 66), Morris, Forby, Siggery (Carter 85), Prince, Black, Moore, Halfpenny.

**ACT Academy of Sport:** Beattie, Hepperlin, Bartlett, Butler, Cox (Osztrankovics 85), Hepperlin (Corbett 85), Wilson, Foxhill, Karp, Doyle, Channing.

with a piledriver from the edge of the box saved by the fingertips of SA's Lynn White. Forced to resort to some desperation defence at the death, SA survived, taking with them the three points.

POINTS TABLE									
South Conference — After Round One									
Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PT	
SA	2	2	0	0	8	2	+6	6	
VIC	2	1	0	1	4	7	-3	3	
ACT	2	0	0	2	2	5	-3	0	

## BLACK LEADS SASI WHITEWASH

**SA Sports Institute 6 ITC Victoria 1**  
(Black 9m 27, 31m, Moore 45m 58m) (Zacharopoulos 18m)

SA Sports Institute put on a display of brilliant attacking soccer in their first match of the national league to blast away ITC Victoria last Saturday with a scoreline of 6-1 at the AIS Canberra. SA's attacking midfielder and Australian Team member Sharon Black was the dominant force, bagging four goals within a 26 minute spell in the first half.

It wasn't long before SASI asserted its authority. Strong and comfortable on the ball, they strung together some impressive passing combinations, through intelligent supporting runs. After a first-up victory the previous day, Victoria were put on the back foot and were unable to stem the flow.

Black set the scene for what was to come as early as the 9th minute, the ball laid off to her from inside the box. Black did not hesitate to unleash a drive from 7 metres giving the goalkeeper no chance.

Against the run of play, Victoria converted one of their few chances for the half. In the 18th minute, strong forward Kathy Zacharopoulos received the ball in front of goal and sent in a well-

driven shot from 15 metres to equalise at 1-1.

Then the SASI onslaught began, Black combining well with Kimberley Morris in the 27th minute before finishing the move with a carbon copy of her first goal. Four minutes later, a well-floated corner eluded everyone lined up in front of goal and fell to Jessica Halfpenny at the far post. Laying the ball back to the unmarked Black, the SA captain drove her shot through the crowded box straight into the back of the net for her hat-trick and a scoreline of 3-1.

SASI's waves of attack did not let up on a hapless Victoria, and in the 35th minute Black recorded her fourth, running on to a cross from the right and, again unopposed, made her shot from 16 metres look easy. Four minutes later, Black almost made it five but her blast shaved the top of the bar.

A long chip in the 45th minute from the centre of the park over the Victorian defence was met by SASI striker Kristy Moore, who kept running toward goal and converted from 7 metres to take the halftime score to 5-1.

The second half was more evenly contested by both sides, although

**SA Sports Institute:** White, Moore, Forby, Morris, Prince, Swaffter Halfpenny, Black, Holland, Winn, Thomas Subs: Siggery, Ruotolo, Wiskus.

**ITC Victoria:** Lynch, Bisby, Sailer, Digiammarco, Walker, Hamilton, Terek, Zacharopoulos, Nolan Bruzzese, McEvoy, Subs: Bracken, Shuttleworth.

the standard of the game dropped to a dour struggle in comparison. The only goal took SA's tally to six in the 58th minute when in a quick counter attack, Moore took off on a solo run from near halfway, finishing with a 15 metre low drive.

Victoria had some good chances to reduce the deficit, including a Louisa Bisby long range free kick which hit the crossbar. Seven minutes from time, a sickening incident sent Victoria into greater despair. A close range shot from a corner smashed into the head of teammate Daniela Digiammarco, the force of the ball sending her head cracking against the goalpost. Play stopped for six minutes as the distraught defender was checked over and stretched off.

## ANSETT COMES TO THE PARTY

The inaugural national league has the good fortune to welcome renowned corporation Ansett Australia on board as naming rights sponsor. The announcement was revealed last Wednesday at a special press conference which received great support from the local and national media.

"This sponsorship from one of Australia's great companies is a defining moment in the history of the sport," said AWSA's Warren Fisher. "Ansett's contribution to the summer series extends well beyond being the official carrier and is recognition of the sport's development and the ever increasing stature of the game."

Said Ansett's Max Mercer,

"Ansett Australia has made a commitment to excellence in sport and is now immensely proud to be associated with women's soccer. There is a great synergy between Ansett Australia and AWSA in striving to be the very best in our field. We share the excitement of all those involved, particularly in the lead up to Australia's participation at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games."

The sponsorship was further recognised at a launch luncheon on Friday before the opening match at the AIS. The function was honoured with the presence of a number of top level executives from the world of sport including Australian Sports Commission chief Jim Ferguson.

The day was filled with reasons

to celebrate. Apart from the kick off of the league, and Ansett's sponsorship, news had arrived overnight of increased funding from the ASC, a vital ingredient in our Olympic campaign, and tangible evidence of the ASC's belief and confidence in the progress women's soccer has demonstrated in a time when other sports had received drastic cuts to their funding.

The much awaited Superstars of Soccer promotional resources also made their first public appearance, the dynamic, radical graphics well received by all present. The poster and postcard series features one player from each of the mainland states. Guests were also entertained with a video presentation of Olympic highlights.

### ANSETT AUSTRALIA SUMMER SERIES

#### Round Two: North Conference

■ NSW INSTITUTE OF SPORT ■ NORTHERN NSW ITC

■ QLD ACADEMY OF SPORT/ITC

Fri 13 December	NSW v NNSW	7.00pm
Sat 14 December	NNSW v QLD	2.30pm
Sun 15 December	NSW v QLD	11.00am

*Continued from previous pg...*

QUEENSLAND ACADEMY OF SPORT/ITC			
Colours: White/Maroon & Grey Trim (Home), Maroon/Grey			
Shirt No.	Player	Position	Age
1	Belinda Kitching	GK	19
2	Lindsay Whiddett	D	17
3	Georgette Leake	D	20
4	Sonia Gegenhuber	D	26
5	Sarah Garven	D	18
6	Brooke Short	M/F	16
7	April Mann	M/F	18

Shirt No.	Player	Position	Age
8	Tammie Thornton	F	18
9	Kim Revell	F	21
10	Lisa Dunne	F	29
11	Olivia Hohnke	M/F	18
12	Alicia Ferguson	F	15
13	Corinne Currey	M/F	20
14	Megan Bond	M/F	16
15	Michelle MacKenzie	F	16
16	Kelly Russell	D	17
18	Kate Stork	D	17
19	Joanne Butland	GK	18
Coach:		Greg Brown	

## USA ON HOLD

The eagerly awaited visit to Australia of Olympic Champions USA next month has been put on hold. Team USA had been forced to change its plans after finding it impossible to secure flight bookings at that time.

But rest assured, the Americans will still make the tour at a later date. AWSA is hopeful it can be timed during the two week break in March before the Ansett Australia Summer Series playoffs, which would tie in perfectly from a marketing perspective. The delay also gives Australia further preparation time, and means a greater portion of the national league will create opportunities for final selections.

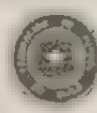






# SOUTH AMERICA

— COMPILED BY MARIO ETCHART —



## INDEPENDIENTE KING OF THE WORLD

Independiente, one of the big guns in Argentine soccer, are the leading club in the world taking into account the number of victories in international tournaments.

The "Red Devils" of Avellaneda are the team who have won more championships in the history of the sport, according to a report published by the press agency UPI.

The Argentine club have been victorious in 15 titles which include seven Libertadores Cups, three Inter

American Cups, two Inter Continental (Toyota) Cups, two South American Supercups, and one Cup's Cup.

The second placed Italian club AC Milan with 13; five European Club Championships, three Supercups, three Inter Continental Cups, one Cup's Cup and one UEFA Cup.

Meanwhile another two South American clubs, Penarol and Nacional of Uruguay, together with Real Madrid of Spain and Juventus of Italy, are all in fourth place,

with eight titles each.

Penarol, the current Uruguayan champion, have triumphed in five Libertadores Cups, three Inter Continental Cups, two Inter American Cups and one Cup's Cup.

Spanish giants, Real Madrid's record stands at six European Clubs Championships, two UEFA Cups, and one Inter Continental Cup, while Juventus has won three UEFA Cups, two European Club Championships, two Cup's Cups, and one Supercup.

Another two great clubs are

among the best in the world: Sao Paulo of Brazil and Barcelona of Spain, with eight titles each.

Sao Paulo's haul is two Inter Continental Cups, two Libertadores Cups, two Cup's Cups, one Supercup and one Inter American Cup, while Barcelona obtained three Cup's Cups, three UEFA Cups, one Supercup and one Champions Cup.



## NACIONAL WINS PRE LIBERTADORES LEAGUE

Nacional qualified for the 1997 edition of the Libertadores Cup after their 2-0 victory over traditional enemy, the current Uruguayan champions, Penarol.

The match, played at Montevideo's historic Centenario stadium attracted 50,000 spectators.

The top eight teams from the Uruguayan league play for two berths in the major South American championship at club level.

Striker Juan Ravera in the 40th and 45th minutes scored both goals for Nacional.



Uruguayan international referee Daniel Dluzniewski sent off four players from Penarol and three from Nacional in a hard fought game.

With one round to go, Nacional lead the competition with 16 points, followed by Danubio with 10, Defensor Sporting and Liverpool with 9, Penarol 8, River Plate 7, Huracan Buceo 3 and Rampla Juniors 0.

Penarol will play for the second Libertadores Cup's berth with the Pre Libertadores league second placed team.

## VELEZ SANSFIELD WIN SUPERCOPA

Argentina's Velez Sarsfield beat Cruzeiro of Brazil 2-0 to win the South American Super Cup in Buenos Aires last Friday.

Patricio Camps opened the scoring in the fourth minute and Gelson Baresi put through his own goal to make it 2-0 in the eighth.

Velez, the 1994 world club champion, won the first leg at Belo Horizonte 1-0 with a goal from their Paraguayan goalkeeper Jose Luis Chilavert.



## First for Portuguesa in Brazil

Portuguesa reached the Brazilian championship final for the first time on Sunday but there was confusion over the dates for the most important domestic game of the

Portuguesa held on for a 2-2 draw at Atletico Mineiro in the second leg of their semifinal to win 3-2 on aggregate and will play Gremio (right) who drew 2-2 at home to Goias but went through thanks to a 3-1 away win in midweek.

The first leg of the final was originally due to be played either Wednesday or



Thursday with the second match the following Sunday.

However confusion reigned after Gremio president Fabio Koff said that he had proposed the first leg should be switched to next Sunday with the decisive game on December 22.

## ARGENTINE SOCCER LEAGUE

River Plate came back to the Argentine league first phase with a convincing 5-1 victory over Ferro Carril Oeste, and took the lead from Lanus, who lost 2-1 against Independiente.

The current leaders were too strong and too skillful for Ferro, playing a devastating attacking game for the enjoyment of their fans.

Argentine international attacking midfielder Ariel Ortega scored twice, while Chilean international striker Marcelo Salas also put away a pair and midfielder Roberto Monserrat netted the other one.

Meanwhile, Independiente defeated Lanus 2-1 in a dramatic encounter played in Avellaneda. Daniel Cravero opened the account for Lanus but striker Jose Luis Calderon gave the "Red Devils" the victory.

Lanus finished the match with ten men after referee Daniel Gimenez sent off goalkeeper Carlos Roa five minutes before the end.

In the local derby, Racing Club, coached by

former Argentine national team coach Alfio Basile, maintained their record over struggling Boca Juniors, beating Bilardo's team by 4 goals to 2.

Sebastian Brusco, Marcelo Delgado, goalkeeper Ignacio Gonzalez and Claudio Marini scored for Racing while midfielder Julio Toresani netted for Boca Juniors.

### OTHER RESULTS:

Huracan Corrientes	4
Newell's Old Boys	1
Rosario Central	1
Huracan	1
Colon	3
Gimnasia La Plata	1
Estudiantes La Plata	1
Union	0
Gimnasia Jujuy	4
Banfield	1
San Lorenzo	1

## BRAZIL'S NEW KIT UNVEILED

Brazil have unveiled a new kit for their international team as part of a 10-year multi-million dollar contract with sports manufacturers Nike.

Nike have added a thick green stripe down the sleeves of the famous gold shirt in one of the most dramatic changes ever made to the Brazilian strip.

The stripe got a mixed reaction from journalists present at the unveiling.

Brazilian football boss Ricardo Teixeira says the deal will help pay for a new headquarters to replace the decaying eight-storey building in central Rio de Janeiro.



Juninho: Traditional Brazil shirt is about to change.



Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	P
River Plate	14	11	2	1	39	18	34
Lanus	16	8	1	7	22	12	31
Independiente	16	9	4	3	37	18	31
Racing Club	15	8	4	3	26	18	28
San Lorenzo	16	8	5	3	25	18	27
Velez Sarsfield	16	6	5	5	19	25	23
Boca Juniors	16	6	4	6	30	27	22
Newell's Old Boys	16	6	4	6	22	23	22
Rosario Central	16	5	4	7	25	23	22
Platense	15	5	4	6	22	22	20
Gimnasia La Plata	16	5	4	7	17	18	20
Colon	16	4	7	5	18	23	19
Gimnasia Jujuy	16	4	6	6	13	16	18
Estudiantes	16	5	3	8	18	25	18
Ferro Carril Oeste	16	4	5	7	29	33	17
Huracan	16	3	7	6	12	29	16
Union	16	4	3	9	21	26	15
Deportivo Espanol	15	3	7	5	12	18	15
Banfield	16	3	4	9	14	27	13
Huracan Corrientes	15	3	7	5	21	30	13



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## Future given another chance

West Ham appear to have done an about turn over the future of Paulo Futre at the east London club. The injury plagued Portuguese player was to receive his marching orders at Upton Park as manager Harry Redknapp announced at the weekend he was about to tell Futre to leave because his fitness has not reached the required level for the rigours of the English Premier League.

However, the star has now been told, since joining the

club from AC Milan on a free transfer at the start of the season, he is to be given one last chance to prove himself after further consultation with medical experts. "I'm happy with that," quipped Redknapp. "We will continue to see how it goes because it has been proven that, fully fit, Paulo is a top-class player."

Futre has made only four starts for West Ham this term and a further four appearances as substitute and has yet to find the 'onion bag', wearing the claret and blue.

## Boro after 'the Beast'

Middlesbrough have declared their interest in signing Barcelona's international defender Miguel 'the Beast' Nadal in an attempt to shore up their ailing defence. The club have made an offer to the Spanish giants but they are reported as saying that they cannot approach him until they sign another centre-half. With this news, it could be a reality that "The Beast" will be playing at the Riverside in the near future although the cut off date for signing players in Spain is 7 December.

Still with 'Boro, Emerson appears to have gone walkabout yet

again and surely his days at the club are numbered, just as he would like. Unable to settle and unused to the weather, it seems only a matter of time before he gets his way. The question must be asked, should any player hold so much power?



Tottenham Hotspur Supporters Club (Sydney) will meet at the Greenwood Tree Hotel, Oxford Street, on Saturday December 14 from 4.30pm onwards. Anyone wishing more detail should call Martin on: (02) 9331 1563.

Arsenal have appealed against the one match automatic ban skipper Tony Adams faces after being sent off against Newcastle. They will present video evidence to the FA. Referee Graham Barber, new to such lofty heights this term, is the only person who can over-rule his instant decision and should the ban be upheld, Adams will miss the match with Nottingham Forest on December 21. The incident has caused much talk among players and fans alike with Peter Beardsley sportingly acknowledging that the Arsenal star should not have been marched.

Aberdeen fans pelted the Rangers team bus after losing 3-0 in their recent match at Pittodrie. The Dons will launch an inquiry into the events and it's to be hoped no further incidents of this nature will appear again. Luckily, no-one was hurt in the attack. This was reminiscent of two years ago when Rangers striker, Mark Hateley was kicked by home supporters just yards from the players exit to the ground.

Coventry City, Premier League stragglers, will find the going harder this week as they have lost Peter Ndlovu for six weeks. The Zimbabwe striker will undergo a cartilage operation this week in an effort to restore the player to full fitness after only managing three starts this term. "The injury has been hanging about which has been a problem for both him and us ... it's a real blow because Peter is a talented lad," commented manager Gordon Strachan.

'Soccer Stop' - Radio UNO 1620AM and associated stations around NSW, brought you a 'live' interview with Kevin Muscat and the

guys were joined by Francis Awaritefe and Alistair Edwards in the studio as we talked and joked about football for two hours between 8-10pm. Don't miss out next week on all the latest breaking stories from around the world and perhaps our 'mystery guest' will come from 'north o the border' tomorrow night or even from 'darn sarf' maybe? The only way to find out who will be joining us in the studio or who will be live on line is to tune in. What are you waiting for?

Kilmarnock have sacked manager Alex Totten in the Scottish Premiership. Bobby Williamson, reserve team coach, has been appointed caretaker manager while the search for a successor begins.

Totten had previously tasted success with Alloa and St Johnstone before moving to Killie some three years ago as well as having been assistant to then manager Jock Wallace at Rangers. Kilmarnock having lost their last two league games are bottom of the table and in very real danger of relegation, even at this early stage of the season.

Ruud Gullit has attempted to secure the services of Dan Petrescu and is now discussing a new deal with the player.

Briane Deane is protesting his innocence over the tackle that left Mark Hughes needing six stitches in a gashed shin after the recent league game between Leeds and Chelsea at Elland Road.

Premier League Chairmen will decide this week whether to seek an immediate replacement for Rick Parry who has announced his intention to quit the job, after serving a six month notice, to take up a 200,000 a year consultancy post with Liverpool. Chelsea Chairman Ken Bates believes the clubs should use the time at their disposal but feels no need to alter things at the top or the job specification Parry has held.

## Anderton out yet again

Darren Anderton, Spurs injury prone star known as 'sicknote' by his team mates, is facing another lay-off following news he could have knee ligament damage. Having missed seven months of last term with two abdominal operations and some of this season with hamstring problems, Spurs Physio Tony Lanighan said, "Darren twisted a knee against Bolton and also got a kick on it. There is severe bruising and the ligaments may also be affected."

The good news for the fans is Norwegian striker Steffen Iversen has

finally signed for the club from Rosenborg on a five year contract, subject to a medical, and will cost the club around 2.6m stg. Manager Gerry Francis reckons the highly rated 20 year old will go some way to appeasing the supporters after Spurs were thrashed 6-1 by Bolton in the League Cup last week and on current form are losing touch with the pacesetters in the Premier League. Iversen was expected to make his final appearance for Rosenborg against AC Milan in the Champions League last Wednesday night.

## OWLS SHORT OF BLINKER

Regi Blinker of Sheffield Wednesday has had his ban by FIFA upheld and is still unable to play for the side. The ban was imposed following claims by Italian club Udinese that the player had already signed an agreement to play for them when he joined The Owls for 275,000 stg last term. Blinker has remained silent throughout but it's understood he only put his name to an unbinding initial agreement rather than a fully fledged contract.



FIFA Spokesperson Keith Cooper said last Tuesday: "Nothing has been agreed at the moment and the amount of paperwork that we have received from both parties, which is typical of cases such as these, is making things very complicated."

As things stand, Blinker is not allowed to play for the side until this matter is resolved satisfactorily by both clubs. It could be a long wait.

## Book Review

The very latest book, hot off the press, from one of the games true enigmas. He has dominated the English game since arrival in 1992 to play with Leeds and now having just completed the first ever 'double Double' with Manchester United, no-one can doubt his extraordinary talent.

Although there have been some controversial incidents in his career, none more so than at Selhurst Park, he arrived in England with a 'bad boy' image from French football where it was suggested by some: "Behind you there is a trail of the smell of sulphur." Perhaps not the nicest thing to ever have been said.

Incorporating his autobiography, plus his latest comments in recent events, including all the news from the 95/96 season, and packed with some quite remarkable photographs throughout, The Illustrated Cantona is a



Eric Cantona: Subject of a worthwhile book.

complete portrait of the idol that no Old Trafford fan can afford to be without.

ISBN 0-7472-1913-3 is the number to quote to your book shop. A quite masterly look at the man and the images. Like the man, can adopt a somewhat surreal pose, excellent!

## Socceroos Video

Fortunate enough to watch a wonderful video recently produced by Craig Foster and abetted by Alistair Edwards called: OZSOCCER - The Future Coca Cola Socceroos Training Programme.

It stars some of Australia's finest in Damian Mori, Alex Tobin, Craig Foster, Goran Lozanovski, Julie Murray and Lisa Casagrande plus former Olyroos: John Gibson, Bradley Hassell and Ritchie Alagich, to mention but a few.

Watch as the ball skills of the World's greatest players are defined and practised and find out what it's like to represent your country. If that wasn't enough, learn the techniques and training regimen of the players, and improve your own game.

Not yet available in the shops, you can order a copy by ringing 0055 89123. It makes an ideal stocking filler with Christmas just around the corner and at \$29.95 plus P+P, the price is right.

This is the sort of product that Soccer Australia should be endorsing, and thankfully this one they have, as Craig Foster put in all the work himself to promote the product and get this project off the ground. Well played that man!



Craig Foster: Promoting a video which gives a valuable insight into the Socceroos.



# GREENOCK MORTON

BY STUART JONES

**Ground:** Cappielow Park  
**Address:** Sinclair Street Greenock PA15 2TY  
**Railway Station:** Carlsdyke (0.5 mile)  
**Founded:** 1874  
**Admitted to League:** 1893  
**Ground Capacity:** 14,250  
**Seats:** 5,150  
**Pitch Size:** 110 yd x 71 yd  
**Largest Gate:** 23,500 v Celtic 1922  
**Biggest Win:** 11-0 v Carlin Shamrock Scottish Cup 1st Rd 13/11/1886  
**Heaviest Defeat:** 1-10 v Port Glasgow Ath Div 2 - 5 May 1894  
**Nickname:** Ton  
**Colours:** Royal Blue Tartan  
**Honours:** First Division: 1977/78, 1983/84, 1986/87  
 Division 2: 1949/50, 1963/64, 1966/67  
 Second Division: 1994/95  
 Scottish Cup: 1922

**History:** The club was formed in 1874 near Octavia Cottages, Greenock. Early members had lived in Morton Terrace, hence the name Greenock Morton. The team moved to Garvel Park before moving to their current ground in 1879. Apart from the 1882-83 season, where they played at Ladyburn, they have played at the same home ground since. Morton joined the League in 1883 along with near neighbours Port Glasgow Athletic. In 1896 they were the first Scottish club to form a limited company. In March 1902 the ground witnessed a clash between Scotland and Wales. The day the club played Celtic in front of their largest ever crowd was dogged by crowd violence. There was a pitch invasion and gang fighting and this had not been the first time that the club had seen it. Unfortunately it is not such a modern phenomenon after all! Trains and transport were also wrecked and in 1930 a repeat performance saw the ground closed for two weeks.

In 1924 Eric Liddell (Chariots of Fire fame), fresh from the Paris Olympics ran at a meet at the team's ground. Drainage was a problem and the ground was actually dug up through the 1948/49 season with Greenock playing the rest of their home games at Ayr and St Mirren. On the 4th of November 1958 the club switched on their floodlights for the first time for a game against Third Lanark. The ground is a tight squeeze amongst the houses, railway embankment and the road from Glasgow to Gourrock. The club are in the first division currently but are mounting a strong challenge for Premier League status in Scotland.

## UEFA PROPOSES NEW LIMIT

UEFA, responding to the Bosman ruling on transfer fees, put forward an age-limit proposal to help smaller clubs resist the advances of more prestigious sides and cling to their best young players for longer.

UEFA's executive committee, meeting in Tenerife, Canary Islands, said players should be signed on long-term contracts which would keep them at their first club until they reached the age of 24.

During this time they would be subject to a transfer

fee.

When a player turned 24 his contract would expire and he would then be allowed to move to another club on a free transfer.

"The idea of this proposal is that smaller clubs who may have spent money and time developing a young player should be able to keep that player under contract for far longer than they are likely to do now," UEFA deputy general secretary Markus Studer said.

"If another club wants to buy him during his contract then a fee will still be

involved.

"But if a player of 18 for example, has a six-year contract that keeps him at the club that has developed him until he is 24, then at least the selling club has had his services for six years which is more than they would have got out of it before."

The UEFA proposal borrows heavily from a system employed in France for many years. There, players are signed during their school-days on long-term contracts until they are 24. A fee is payable only if they are transferred in the interim.

## HAMMERS LEAVE IT LATE

**Substitute Florin Raducioiu** fired a West Ham comeback in which they hit two late goals in two minutes to snatch a 2-2 draw against champions Manchester United on Sunday.

United were leading through goals from Ole Gunnar Solskjaer and David Beckham with only 13 minutes left when home side West Ham suddenly transformed the shape of the game.

First, Raducioiu shrugged aside Ronnie Johnsen to create the room he needed to drive his first league goal past Peter Schmeichel in the 78th minute.

Two minutes later, Ilie Dumitrescu played into the box, Michael Hughes gathered the ball and when he attempted to round Schmeichel the goalkeeper

brought him crashing to the ground.

The referee had no doubts it was a penalty and defender Julian Dicks' finish was equally emphatic, a thunderous left-footer past Schmeichel.

United, having been given the run-around before halftime, seized the initiative through two moments of creative genius by skipper Eric Cantona.

The Frenchman produced a pass of outstanding vision with the outside of his right foot to allow Solskjaer to grab his first away goal in the 54th minute.

Then Cantona started the move that ended with Beckham chipping into the top corner to make it 2-0 after 75 minutes.

However, the Raducioiu-inspired fightback earned West Ham a worthy point and

left United in sixth place, eight points behind leaders Arsenal.



**Peter Schmeichel: Lucky to stay on pitch after bringing down Hughes**

# Weird and Wonderful

BY STUART JONES

1892-93

This season saw the introduction of a second division in England. Newton Heath (Manchester United), Nottingham Forest and Sheffield Wednesday were all elected straight into Division One whilst Darwen were relegated to the new Division Two. So there was a 16 team Div 1 and a 12 team Div 2.

Small Heath, Burslem PV and Ardwick were to change their names in the years to come (to Birmingham City, Port Vale and Manchester City) while three teams were to join who are not in League football today. They are Burton Swifts, Northwich Victoria and Bootle. Bootle was to be outshone on the Mersey by Everton. Swifts amalgamated with Burton Wanderers to become Burton United. Northwich Victoria still play just outside league football today. Three bits of trivia: the oldest standing football stand is actually the pavilion Bootle used. Burton claim to be the oldest football association in the world. Northwich Victoria's second game was the first association football game to be played in Manchester itself.

Sunderland were again champions yet again with Preston runners up for the third year running. Newton Heath finished last but won the test matches (now play offs) to survive. Amazingly Accrington (who finished second last) and Notts County (third last) both lost in the test matches but it was only County who were relegated. The test matches also meant the first champions of Division Two, Small Heath, missed out on promotion after drawing with and then losing to Newton Heath. Instead Darwen (third) and Sheffield United (second) were promoted. Walsall TS finished bottom in the country.

Wolves and Everton played in the fifth round of the FA Cup which in 1893 was the final, at Manchester Athletic Club, Fallowfield. Everton had taken three games to beat Preston in the semis, whilst Wolves had defeated Blackburn 2-1 in the same stage. 40,000 people turned up, many of the barricades swept away by the crowd. The game was not one of the classics. The goal was a screwed shot that Everton thought not a goal, and they actually officially protested against the goal. The Association after the game, and after consideration, let the goal stand (no TV replays then). Williams and Rose in goals for each club pulled off some brilliant saves and Allen's single goal for Wolverhampton Wanderers gave them victory and the FA Cup.

### LEAGUE TABLES

#### Division 1

Sunderland	30	13	2	0	58	17	9	2	4	42	19	48
Preston NE	30	11	2	2	34	10	6	1	8	23	29	37
Everton	30	9	3	3	44	17	7	1	7	30	34	36
Aston Villa	30	12	1	2	50	24	4	2	9	23	38	35
Bolton W	30	12	1	2	43	21	1	5	9	13	34	32
Burnley	30	10	2	3	37	15	3	2	10	14	29	30
Stoke	30	8	2	5	33	16	4	3	8	25	32	29
WBA	30	9	2	4	35	17	3	3	9	23	52	29
Blackburn R	30	5	8	2	29	24	3	5	7	18	32	29
Nottingham For	30	7	2	6	30	27	3	6	6	18	25	28
Wolves	30	11	2	2	32	17	1	2	12	15	51	28
Sheffield W	30	8	2	5	34	28	4	1	10	21	37	27
Derby Co	30	5	6	4	30	28	4	3	8	22	36	27
Notts Co	30	8	3	4	34	15	2	1	12	19	46	24
Accrington	30	5	5	5	29	34	1	6	8	28	47	23
Newton Heath	30	6	3	6	39	35	0	3	12	11	50	18

#### Division 2

Small Heath	22	10	1	0	57	16	7	1	3	33	19	36
Sheffield U	22	10	1	0	35	8	6	2	3	27	11	35
Darwen	22	10	0	1	43	15	4	2	5	17	21	30
Grimsby T	22	8	1	2	25	7	3	0	8	17	34	23
Ardwick	22	6	3	2	27	14	3	0	8	18	26	21
Burton S	22	7	1	3	30	18	2	1	8	17	29	20
Northwich V	22	7	0	4	25	26	2	2	7	17	32	20
Bootle	22	8	1	2	35	20	0	2	9	14	43	19
Lincoln C	22	0	2	3	30	28	1	1	9	15	33	17
Crewe A	22	6	1	4	30	24	0	2	9	12	45	15
Burslem PV	22	4	1	6	16	23	2	2	7	14	34	15
Walsall TS	22	4	3	4	25	24	1	0	10	12	51	13

In Scotland Celtic were champions with 29 points. They were followed by Rangers on 28 and St Mirren on 20. The Scottish Cup Final saw Queens Park defeat Celtic 2-1 and therefore take revenge for the loss in the same game the previous year as well as stopping Celtic do the cup/league double in Scotland.

## RANGERS GO OUT WITH LOSS

Small town French club Auxerre reached the European Cup quarter-finals at the first attempt as winner of its Champions' League group when it beat Glasgow Rangers 2-1 at home last Wednesday.

The surprise winner of a very tight Group A, in which four times

European champions Ajax Amsterdam was edged into second place, will meet Group B runners-up Borussia Dortmund of Germany in the last eight next March.

First-half goals by central striker Lilian Laslandes and wing Steve Marlet, his second of the competition after scoring in the 2-1 upset over Ajax in Amsterdam last month, secured victory for Auxerre.

Walter Smith, Rangers manager, whose side also lost 2-1 to the French champions at home in their second group match in September, said the pattern of the game was dictated by Auxerre scoring first.

After 20 minutes, defender Franck Rabarivony reached the goal line on the left and pulled back a superb cross that Marlet headed straight at Scotland goalkeeper Andy Goram.

Laslandes streaked in to poke the ball home at the



**Andy Goram: Veteran keeper on losing side in Champions League**

foot of the near post.

In the 32nd minute, Marlet latched on to the ball near the halfway line and burst through the challenges of three defenders. He looked like he would lose his balance but managed to stay on his feet and steer the ball past Goram to put Auxerre two up.

Rangers captain Richard Gough, in his last European tie for the Scottish club he is

quitting at the end of the season, brought his side back into the game when he ghosted in behind the defence to head home a free kick from the left nine minutes before the interval.

The width of goalkeeper Fabien Cool's post stood between Auxerre winning the group or finishing second when it denied Rangers left back David Robertson a 75th-

minute equaliser after he was put through by Ferguson on the left.

Rangers' only mark on the Champions' League was a surprise home win over Grasshopper Zurich in their previous match that contributed to the Swiss side's elimination after they had emerged as group favourites.





# UK STORIES



## THE RAMS HOLD THE GUNNERS

Frenchman Patrick Vieira rescued English premier league leader Arsenal by blasting his first goal for the club in injury time to salvage a 2-2 draw against Derby on Saturday.

Arsenal had been rocked by strikes from forwards Dean Sturridge and Darryl Powell in the 62nd and 71st minutes which thrust Derby 2-1 ahead at Highbury.

The London club, which was given the lead by a diving header from captain Tony Adams on the stroke of halftime, launched a desperate late offensive in which they conjured an equaliser.

French under-21 midfielder Vieira crashed an unstoppable left-foot drive through a crowded penalty area to save the day for Arsenal.

Sheffield Wednesday striker Guy Whittingham made the most of a below par display by Liverpool when he scored the only goal midway through the first half to inflict

its first home league defeat of the season.

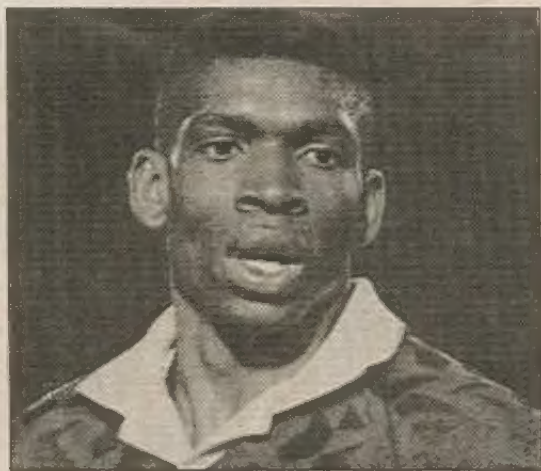
Wimbledon won 3-1 at Sunderland to extend its unbeaten league and cup run to 18 games, an astonishing transformation in fortunes which started after it lost its first three league games of the season.

Strikes by Efan Ekoku in the eighth and 29th minutes and an 89th minute goal by fellow forward Dean Holdsworth secured victory for Wimbledon.

Wimbledon, who have confounded expectations by a combination of spirit, determination and improving skills under the shrewd coaching of manager Joe Kinnear, is now level on 31 points with third-placed Liverpool. Both teams have a game in hand on the leader.

Aston Villa, 1-0 winners over Southampton thanks to a first-half goal from midfielder Andy Townsend, is in fourth place on 30.

Italian Gianfranco Zola scored his first goal for



Efan Ekoku: Scored a double for Wimbledon.

Chelsea since his recent move from Parma as his new club secured a 2-2 draw at home to Everton.

He scored with a 12th minute free kick to give Chelsea the lead before Everton hit back within the next 14 minutes through goals from striker Michael Branch and Russian international winger Andrei Kanchelskis.

Zola's countryman Gianluca Vialli hit his eighth goal of the season in the 55th minute to put the London side back on terms.

Norwegian striker Steffen Iversen made his debut for Tottenham at Coventry, but it was England forward Teddy Sheringham and Andy Sinton who gave the visitors a 2-1 success.

## MAN UNITED PROGRESS IN EUROPE

Manchester United became the first English club since 1985 to reach the Champions Cup quarter final after scoring a 2-0 victory at Rapid Vienna last Wednesday.

Goals by Ryan Giggs and Eric Cantona and a spectacular save by Peter Schmeichel ensured a Reds victory at the Ernst Happel stadium, in Vienna.

With defending champion Juventus beating Fenerbahce 2-0 in Turin, the result in Vienna meant Alex Ferguson's team climbed above the Turks in Group C standings to make it to a quarter final game against FC Porto in March.

Welsh forward Giggs should have fired from the visitors ahead in the fifth minute when he volleyed too high from 11 metres and then Rapid goalkeeper Michael Konsel fisted a powerful drive from Gary Neville over the top.

United's Danish goalkeeper Schmeichel, rated by many as the best in the world, rescued

his team with a spectacular, acrobatic save in the 16th minute.

Rapid striker Rene Wagner was unchallenged as he met a left-wing cross and headed downwards but Schmeichel stuck out his right hand and somehow scooped the ball over the bar.

Two minutes later Dietmar Kuehnbauer squandered another Rapid chance by firing high and wide from close range with Schmeichel grounded after saving at Wagner's feet.



After Manchester's Norwegian striker Ole Gunnar Solskjaer had shot wide from close range, Cantona and

Giggs, whose partnership is so important to United's confidence, teamed up to put their team ahead in the 23rd minute.

The French forward collected a clearance, shrugged off Rapid's rugged and experienced Bulgarian defender Trifon Ivanov, and put the Welshman through. Giggs had only Konsel to beat and side-footed home from 15 metres.

Konsel fisted away a powerful 18 metre effort from Cantona and then fingertipped a shot from Solskjaer round the post as United maintained the pressure.

Giggs should have made it 2-0 with the second half less than a minute old when he collected a short inside pass from Solskjaer but fired wide from nine metres with only Konsel to beat.

The second goal came in the 71st minute when Cantona arrived at the far post to prod home a right wing cross from Beckham for his first goal for seven weeks.

## EMERSON REGRETS SIGNING

Middlesbrough's missing Brazilian midfielder star Emerson told British press last week that he will not be returning to England until he has sorted out family problems.

The unsettled summer-signing for Boro failed to return to the club on a scheduled flight from Rio de Janeiro, but said he is prepared to undertake any financial burden until his wife Andrea has recovered from her depression.

The beleaguered Brazilian, speaking to British press said: "If I'd known what problems I was going to face in England, I would never have left Porto."

"I have spoken about my problems with Mr Bryan Robson, who is a very human person and he understands my situation. But my destiny is in

the hands of Middlesbrough," he added.

But Middlesbrough chairman Steve Gibson is refusing to let the Samba star go and is prepared to leave him in soccer's wilderness unless he returns to Teesside.

Boro have admitted they will continue to impose the maximum fine possible on Emerson, believed to be \$A16,000 a week, until he shows up again.

"My wife is the most important thing in my life and until she is well, I cannot come back. "The only way to solve things would be for my family to move to England. I have tried to convince my parents to come to Middlesbrough so that they could be company for us, but I have not been able to convince them to set foot in an aircraft.

## Chilean on Way to Rangers

Sebastian Rozental, one of Chile's top scorers, has almost clinched \$A12.62 million transfer to Scottish club Glasgow Rangers with the deal expected to be signed, his father and manager Lazaro Rozental said last week.

"Only small things have to be agreed, like how long he stays there and where he will live," Lazaro Rozental told Las Ultimas Noticias newspaper after a trip to

Britain.

Rozental's club Universidad Catolica could receive \$A7.57 million with the player getting \$A4.42 million for a three-and-a-half year contract, said the paper.

If the deal goes ahead, it will be the most expensive transfer in Chile's Soccer history.

Rozental, 20, could leave for Scotland after Chile's World Cup qualifier against Argentina on December 15, his father said.

## Brighton's Case Out

Brighton fans said there would be no let-up in their campaign to get rid of the club's owners following the dismissal of manager Jimmy Case last week.

The former Liverpool star was given his marching orders after a dreadful start to this season which has seen the club crash to the bottom of Soccer's Third Division.

It has won just three

matches all season and last week was eliminated from the FA Cup by non-league Sudbury.

It was with Case as a player that Brighton last enjoyed relative success, reaching the 1983 FA Cup Final and forcing Manchester United into a replay after the first game finished 2-2, Brighton lost the replay 4-0 and was relegated from the old First Division.

## EVENTFUL MATCH FOR ASPRILLA

Two late goals in as many minutes from Faustino Asprilla gave nervous Newcastle an ill-deserved win over Metz and steered them into the quarter-finals of the UEFA Cup last week.

Newcastle, without a win in five matches going into the St James's Park clash, rode its luck until Asprilla ended the French side's brave resistance with a double strike that secured a 3-1 aggregate win.

Asprilla's joy was marred after he was booked for an over-elaborate celebration of his first goal, the Colombian rushing over to the touchline and flinging his shirt over the corner flag before waving it at supporters.

The yellow card means Asprilla, who was booked in the first leg, will miss the first leg of next March's quarter final tie. The crowd favourite was then carried off the field on a stretcher two minutes from the end after suffering a leg injury.

Asprilla, fired Newcastle ahead 10 minutes from time when he stooped to head home Darren Peacock's cross at the near post. Two minutes

later, the Magpies' UEFA Cup specialist, who has now scored five goals in the competition this season, raced clear from the halfway line and chipped over advancing Metz keeper Andre Biancarelli.

It was rough justice for Metz who, inspired by Robert Pires, carved out the better chances and were only let down by wayward finishing.

Newcastle, aiming to become the first English side to win the UEFA Cup since Tottenham in 1984, made a nervous start as Metz tore into them from the first whistle.

The Geordies held on in the face of profligate finishing by Pires and Amara Traore in particular, before Asprilla made his dramatic late contribution.



Faustino Asprilla: Scored two late goals in as many minutes for Newcastle.

## McCoist - Tops in Scotland

Ally McCoist became the Scottish league's record goalscorer with a double strike in five second-half minutes as Glasgow Rangers beat Hibernian 4-3 on Saturday.

McCoist first put Rangers level after 70 minutes when he just beat goalkeeper Jim Leighton to a cross from Dane Brian Laudrup and headed home to equal Gordon Wallace's post-World War

Two mark of 264 strikes.

Five minutes later, England midfielder Paul Gascoigne drove in an inviting cross and McCoist thrust out a boot to put Rangers ahead and claim the record of 265 for himself.

It was his 243rd goal for Rangers, with his other 22 coming during his spell at St Johnstone.

McCoist has now scored 16 times this season, and his two goals against the Edinburgh side could have a major

impact on the premier division title race.

With Celtic losing 2-1 at Motherwell, Rangers are now eight points clear and on course for a record-equalling ninth successive title.

Yet before McCoist's intervention, Hibernian had threatened to spring a major upset, taking the lead through Keith Wright after 20 minutes.

Rangers equalised in the 34th minute thanks to Ian Ferguson but Hibs restored

their advantage six minutes later through Darren Jackson.

However, McCoist's double blow and a fourth goal after 82 minutes by Laudrup effectively swung the game back to Rangers.

Celtic, which trailed 1-0, equalised through substitute Chris Hay with seven minutes left, only for Motherwell to snatch victory when Ian Ross slid the ball home with only seconds remaining.



**True Blues versus  
International  
Travellers**  
June 19, 1996

